

THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL,

OF

Politics and General Literature.

VOL. III.]

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1821.

[No. 107]

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

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Politics of Europe.

We continue the Heads of Intelligence from the Papers last received. Our pages of yesterday included the principal articles from the 10th to the 30th of November. Those of to-day will include the succeeding articles from the 1st to the 10 of December, among which are many that will be read with considerable interest.

We submit to our readers an account of the proceedings at a Meeting of Irish Gentlemen held in London on the 4th of December, to take into consideration the measures that ought to be adopted in the present distressing situation of that country. From a Meeting of Irishmen, the Public had a right to look for correct and enlightened views of the true causes of the present irritation among that people and the best mode of tranquillizing them. For it is only the inhabitants of a country who can give a faithful picture of such affairs; others only see the surface: Natives see more than meets the eye of the foreign observer—the secret workings of the popular mind, where the immediate causes are, and where the remedy must be applied. But, some how or other, there appeared at the Meeting a disposition to shirk this question entirely, and narrow the subject to the mere question whether or not it was proper to present an Address to the King praying him to call a meeting of Parliament. However, Mr. Donovan of Cork, did not lose the opportunity of stating his sentiments; and although he did so in a manner rather too blunt for his hearers, he had the firmness to persevere, notwithstanding the attempts that were made to silence him; and his observations are really the only thing of any value that transpired at the meeting.

He justly regards the present occurrences in Ireland not as insulated events, but as merely the continued symptoms of a chronic disease, which is preying upon the vitals of the nation. Unfortunately the same treatment has always been applied to it, in spite of repeated experience that it could never effect a thorough cure. "The bayonet," says Mr. Donovan, "the bayonet has always been applied to repress such outrages." No wonder then, that after such measures being resorted to, for quieting their discontents, the English government should have been, as he tells us, "odious to Ireland for centuries past," as factious, exclusive, and penal. But bad government is not the only cause to which he ascribes the miseries of Ireland. She has been *curst*, he tells us, by "a squandering, a proud, and an oppressive gentry," and he points out some of the modes in which they have displayed such qualities. If it be true that "Bills of Indictment could be either found or thrown out just as the party happened to have interest with the grand Jury," we cannot be surprised that a spirited people prefer living in a state of anarchy to bending beneath the grinding yoke of such a detestable system; and the authors of it, though they may now whine at the horrible consequences which such monstrous injustice has drawn upon them, are not really deserving of pity.

The view he gives of the effects of the landed proprietors absenting themselves from Ireland, is just, and accords completely with the views that have been given of it by the most enlightened writers. A class of agents and middlemen have sprung up who plunder the tenant while they cheat the landlord; and thus all sympathy is lost between the landlord and the tenant.

But where are we to look for an efficient remedy to such inveterate evils? Of some, the remedy seems beyond the reach of

Government, even if heartily disposed to apply it. But whatever they do, we hope they will not try the efficacy of making the King drink whiskey punch in Dublin; and while they surround him with Nobility, Pensioners, and Clergy, and by the tribe of placemen that encircle the throne, delude him with the mockery of idle parade; then hypocritically hold forth this, as they lately did, as a cure for all the evils that Ireland suffers.

London, December 1, 1821.—Death of the Countess of Besborough.—The intelligence of this fatal event arrived yesterday by a courier express from Florence. Her Ladyship was taken seriously ill when travelling, about six posts from the above city. It was the death of the infant son of the Honourable William Ponsonby that had such a lamentable effect on this amiable lady's nerves. Her ladyship breathed her last at seven o'clock, on the morning of the 11th of Nov. in the presence of the Earl of Besborough and Mr. Ponsonby. The express came to Lord Duncannon, who instantly wrote to Earl Spencer, the brother of the deceased. The body is now on its way to this country; her ladyship having expressed a desire to be interred in the family vault of the Cavendishes, at Derby. The procession is to halt two days at Lyons, and two days at Paris. Lady Besborough and the late Duchess of Devonshire were called the *Rival Sisters*—for beauty and accomplishments they had few equals.—*Evening Paper.*

Major Andre.—It has been stated that the remains of Major Andre have been lately removed from the spot where they were originally interred in the year 1780, at Tappan, New York, and brought to England in the *Phaton* frigate, by order of his Royal Highness the Duke of York. On Thursday the sarcophagus was deposited in front of the cenotaph in Westminster Abbey, which was erected by his late Majesty to the memory of this gallant officer. The re-interment took place in the most private manner the Dean of Westminster superintending in person; Major-General Sir Herbert Taylor attending on the part of his Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief; and Mr. Locker, Secretary to Greenwich Hospital, on behalf of the three surviving sisters of the deceased.—*Times.*

London, Dec. 3, 1821.—Next to our own Parliamentary budget, there is probably no financial subject of so much importance to us as the *expose* made from year to year by the Government to the people of France. That people are now put out of pain as to the demands of their rulers for the year ensuing. Our trial, on the other hand, is yet to come; and we have to enjoy the anticipation of it for some two or three months longer. Unfortunately, if it was ours to combat successfully in the field, the triumph of the *bureau* is with our neighbour. The consequences of the peace have well repaid her for the incidents of the preceding war, however disastrous. The industry of France has been encouraged; her resources developed; her commerce been at once enlarged and protected; and, although many painful and extraordinary obligations have been contracted towards foreign Powers, she has managed to liquidate them all,—to establish an effectual sinking fund,—and now to reduce the taxes by £. 1,360,000. per annum, which is announced as the commencement only of a system of progressive diminution.

The charge for the army of France is above 7,000,000*l.* per annum, and that for the navy about 2,400,000*l.* In the latter there is an increase of about 280,000*l.* above last year's esti-

mate, for the purpose of putting "the ships into complete repair, and of sending succour to all parts of the world, where French commerce, or the interests of humanity, demand protection." In the Mediterranean and the West Indies, we already know that the objects avowed by the French Government have been efficaciously and creditably accomplished.

The sum total of the estimates is 890,000,000*fr.* or 35,600,000*l.* The Treasury is declared to be rich and secure, and the Minister will no longer be compelled to "issue any more extraordinary securities for the public service," but will pay all demands in money.

The conclusion of the official speech contains a strong picture of the powerful means possessed by France, and of her growing and ripening prosperity: if a correct one, she certainly, in what concerns the administration of her finances, need not be ashamed to compare notes with the foremost and loftiest of her rivals.

Madrid papers to the 15th ultimo arrived yesterday; but their accounts, which had been anticipated by letters in the French Journals, which extend to the 17th, are of no further importance than as they show, by the complexion and scantiness of their statements, the total falsehood of the unfavourable reports previously spread of disturbances in the peninsula.—*Times*.

London, December 4, 1821.—After a long want of interest, the French papers have become, as some may perhaps think, portentously important. The KING—we trust we may say only through his Ministers—is at variance with the Chamber of Deputies. If responsibility, indeed, were as well understood in France as in England, the occurrence which has taken place would only imply this,—that the majority of the Chamber of Deputies is opposed to Ministers; for an address has been voted to the KING in that Chamber, the most significant passages of which Ministers would have negatived if they had been able. Ministers are, therefore, left in a minority, not upon any detached question of inferior importance, but upon the general merits of Government, as conducted by them. The KING's reply to the Address is spirited enough,—perhaps, some may think that it has too strong a personal reference to himself and his antecedent sufferings; but such is the manner of his Majesty; and the French nation is not of a character unlikely to be moved by appeals of this nature. We refer our readers to the Address and Reply; and shall add here such further intelligence or anecdotes as we have received.

M. DE SERRE is said to have mounted the tribune three times, in order to oppose different part of the Address: and M. LAINE spoke at great length, but with evident marks of disapprobation from the right side. M. DE VILLELE did not vote. Of the three passages which Ministers wished to change, the first was—"We trust (*nous avons la confiance*) that in the treaties which have taken place, the honour of France and the dignity of your crown have not been compromised."—"You may well say," replied the ministerial people, "that you trust; but the expression means that you distrust (*vous avez mefiance*)—an expression unbecoming on your part, and misplaced with respect to the KING."—The rejoinder was strictly constitutional—that the expression did not apply to the KING, but to his Ministers; and M. LABOURDONNAYE (a Royalist), addressing himself to the latter, said, "Yes, this is the meaning of the phrase, and it is fit that Europe should know that you have lost the confidences of the nation."

The second passage upon which there was a discussion related to the agricultural distresses, the importation of foreign grain, and the low price of that which is of native produce. In this passage M. DE RICHELIEU is supposed to be aimed at; and the free entrance of corn from the Black Sea reprobated. We do not think those very wise politicians, who would enhance the price of any article of life by artificial restrictions. In England, which is a country that exports its manufactures, such restrictions are most injurious. In France, from whence, in comparison, few manufactured articles are exported, and produce of every kind is generally equal to consumption, the mischief resulting from re-

strictions may be less; but most undoubtedly, if France means to contest with us in foreign markets the sale of manufactured articles, she must by all possible means endeavour to lower the price of the necessaries of life, in order that the wages of her manufacturing artisans may be also lowered, and that thus they may be able to compensate, by the cheapness of their goods, for their looser texture.

The third passage opposed by Ministers, and carried by their antagonists, is that which demands the complete execution of the Charter. The liberty of the press is probably the chief point here contested, upon which it is superfluous to deliver an opinion to Englishmen; but it is of importance to state, that the numbers were—for the address so offensive to the King, 176; and against it, 98.

Such as we have above shown, are, in our opinion, the intrinsic merits of those points upon which the Chamber has divided, and Ministers have been defeated. As subjects of mere political contest, enlisting various passions in their service, and disclaiming, or at least slighting, reason and truth, the view which we might take of them would be different. The sarcastic hope expressed that the KING has not sacrificed the honour of the nation to the continuance of peace, may have sprung from the remnant of that Buonapartist faction which was perhaps not sufficiently beaten down by the battle of Waterloo, and which still sighs for war, plunder, and promotion, under any adventurer, and upon whatever pretext, and is therefore sorry that the KING has not intermeddled in the affairs of Turkey and Greece. However, it appears that ultra-Royalists have joined with Jacobins in the composition of this majority—an union most unnatural; and which can ultimately only tend to increase the reciprocal hatred of the two parties, by bringing them to a better knowledge of each other from proximity. It is, however, a matter of great importance to know whether their temporary coalition will be able to drive out Ministers; or by what means the latter, if they should remain, will endeavour to regain their majority in the Chamber. A dissolution of the Chamber is talked of; and Ministers, it is said, have tendered their resignation, which the KING refused. The minds of our readers will be recalled by the present position of affairs in France to those of England immediately after the grand coalition between Lord NORTH and Mr. FOX: and if the similitude were just in all points, the event would probably be similar. The coalition between the Ultras and the Jacobins is as unnatural as that above alluded to: the KING and his Ministers now, as then, are in a minority: but have they the nation with them; and would they, on an appeal to the country by a dissolution of the Chamber, increase the number of their friends to a majority?

In an article under the head of Frankfort, the war between Turkey and Persia is said to have commenced. With respect to that between the Turks and Greeks, we may now say with great confidence, that though it may not be easy to see what order will emerge from the present chaos, it is impossible that matters should revert to their ancient state.—*Times*.

London, Dec. 5, 1821.—In another part of the paper will be found the proceedings of a meeting held yesterday at the Thatched-house Tavern, and called especially to take into consideration the present alarming state of Ireland. Notwithstanding the general interest of the occasion, there were not in attendance, we are informed, much more than 100 gentlemen. A resolution, after much (we wish we could avoid saying) idle talk, was adopted for petitioning the KING to take into consideration the propriety of "immediately assembling Parliament, for the purpose of submitting to it the present alarming state of Ireland." This resolution, though finally adopted, was opposed, and we think with reason, as useless, if not absolutely wrong. What, in the name of wonder, can be gained in such a case as the existing state of Ireland, by calling Parliament together this month rather than the next? What more can be accomplished in the first instance beyond the mere suppression of lawless violence? And truly it would be an ultra-Hibernicism to fall to work red-hot at the business of law.

Saturday, May 4, 1822.

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making, for the cure of a whole mass of mischiefs, whose roots lie buried under the dust of 20 generations. There are few enterprises more delicate than that of unravelling an entire web of improvident and unjust laws, unless it be that of adapting others to the gradual amelioration of a system of inveterate and noxious habits. We are afraid that both must be attempted in regard to Ireland; and with that view, we should be the more encouraged to hope for some finally substantial good, in exact proportion to the sobriety, patience, and circumspection, with which the preliminary consideration of the evil and the remedy was conducted. When Mr. TIENE, the first mover of yesterday's resolution, took upon himself to assert, on a mere *ipse dixit*, that the mischief was not in bad government nor a bad magistracy, nor in landlords, nor Orangism, nor tithes, he was, in one sense, right: for it lies not in one, but in all these, and an hundred other causes; of which the absentee ought not to be forgotten, for the moral chasm which he leaves in the community—even more, perhaps, than for the fruits of domestic industry of which he drains it. We place no very extraordinary confidence in a meeting of country gentlemen on the spot (we mean in Ireland), much less in the midst of a chance-medley assemblage at a Tavern in St. James's-street. We would advise every straggler who is amusing himself in London, to repair forthwith to his own Irish dwelling, if he has one; and there, by inquiry and close observation, rather than by declamatory and premature harangues, prepare himself to discuss the measures which may be submitted to Parliament; for, be they ever so long delayed, the wisest orator at Thatched-house Tavern will not, we believe, be found more ready than he need be to consider them.—*Times*.

London December 6, 1821.—A Lisbon packet arrived yesterday, with papers and letters to the 25th ultimo. From a careful perusal of the files of the DIÁRIO DO GOVERNO and ASTRO DO LUSITANIA, we have been able to collect the following particulars, independent of our extracts in another part of the Paper:—

A project of a Decree for the formal abolition of the Patriarchal Church in Lisbon, had been laid before the Cortes, and already been subjected to discussion. The project contains three distinct objects. The first is to revoke the King's assent to a Bull of Pope CLEMENT XIV. by which he creates the Collegiate and Royal Chapel a Metropolitan Patriarchal Church, and annulling all the Acts by which this establishment has since been sustained. The second states, that all the property and revenues which, by royal donations and other titles, had been bestowed upon it, shall henceforward be considered as national, and as such taken possession of. The third adds, that the Prelates, Canons, and other persons employed in the said church, shall have a provision made for them according to their merits. This part of the Reform in the church intended by the new Government of Portugal, and it could not have commenced by a more interesting measure. The Establishment of a Patriarchal Church in Lisbon was intended, we believe, merely to flatter the vanity of JOHN V., and cost Portugal many millions, all of which were sacrificed to the avarice of the Court of Rome. It has since cost the nation upwards of 220 contos de reis, about 55,000*l.* sterling per annum, without serving any beneficial purpose whatever. In the discussions on a subject of such great interest to the Portuguese nation, we observe, that Dr. MOURA and M. CASTELLO BRANCO particularly distinguished themselves, and entered into long details to prove the folly of continuing an establishment that has only served to create confusion in the church, support the despotism of Kings, and create an useless expence to the nation. On the question being proposed to the House, the abolition was resolved upon, with only four dissentient votes.

The departure of the *Expeditionary* battalions intended for Rio Janeiro to replace those whose time of service in the Brazils had expired, had been peremptorily fixed for the 24th ultimo, and all the arrangements made accordingly. A new tariff had been published of some particular articles of merchandize, of which the rates of duties were not fixed by specific treaties, and intended to be in force till the General Tariff, or *Pauta*, is decreed by the Cortes. By a new regulation, the ultra-marine affairs,

which formerly belonged exclusively to the department of the navy, have been placed and separated under the charge of the other divisions of the Executive, according to their nature. In conformity to a report from the Governor of Alentejo, respecting the diminution of the contagious distemper which lately prevailed in Spain, all the obstructions to the usual intercourse had been removed. Congratulations from the municipality of Rio Janeiro had been addressed to the KING on his safe arrival in Portugal. In this Address the inhabitants regret the absence of a Monarch they had had among them for thirteen years, and the answer of the KING breathes the utmost regard and affection of his ultra-marine subjects. In conformity to an order from the Government and addressed to the civil authorities in the provinces, a return had been made out and sent up to the capital, of all clergymen who, from the pulpit, had spoken well of the Constitution and new order of things, and we notice that these returns are published in the GAZETA DO GOVERNO, as an encouragement to others. By this opportunity, we have received another periodical publication, called, O COMPILADOR OU MISCELLANEA UNIVERSAL, which proves that the exertions to instruct the public mind Portugal on topics connected with their future welfare, have not relaxed. In this packet, Mr. OLIVEIRA, the new Charge d' Affaires, has not arrived, but in the packet-list we notice the names of his two Secretaries. The discount on Portugal paper, which a short time ago was at 23, is now at 21½.—*Morning Chronicle*.

London, December 10, 1821.—We have received an account of the very interesting proceedings in the Secret Committee of the chamber of Deputies, in which the Address in answer to the KING's Speech was discussed. These proceedings were, indeed, what they have been represented, of a very stormy nature.

From the language held in this Committee—the strong condemnation of the system with respect to foreign relations pursued by the Government—the daring attacks made by both extremities of the Chamber on the conduct of Austria as well as Russia—the loud demand for a more bold and dignified course, it is impossible not to see the dawning of some great change in Europe. The Ministers seem to have been fully aware of the approaching death of their system—They say that both sides had at least struck a note which accorded with the sentiments and feelings of the whole of a powerful people, whom neither late events nor the insulting language of their elated neighbours will soon teach to forget their former high station in Europe or reconcile to their present humiliating position. The imprudent language held by LOUIS the 18th is, we now find, merely the echo of the language held by Ministers in the Secret Committee.—They were determined to make the paragraph objected to an insult to the KING; though, as was again and again urged by their opponent, it is of the very essence of Representative Governments, that Ministers should alone be responsible for all the acts of the depositaries of the Royal Authority. The language of both Liberals and Ultras was manly and constitutional; while that of Ministers was puerile in the extreme, and characterised by all the embarrassment of conscious guilt.

It is evident that France must appear in a new character on the stage of Europe, and that the KING must reconcile himself to a bolder game than that which he destined her to play. From whatever party, or junction of parties, the Ministers are taken, they will find it difficult, we may say impossible, to stem the torrent of national feeling, which has produced this union of the two extremities. The honour and interests of France must be dearer to them than the gratification of Austria or any other power.

As we conceive France an essential part of the European system, we cannot dissemble our satisfaction at the prospect of her resuming the attitude which properly belongs to her. When France held a submissive language, Austria, and even Prussia, were encouraged to become insolent and threatening. When they see LOUIS the Eighteenth really the King of France, they will soon learn to know who they themselves are.

We hope the spirit of the French Chamber of Deputies will not be lost in our own Parliament. We must not forget Italy or Turkey.—*Morning Chronicle*.

Indian Loan

EAST INDIA HOUSE, NOVEMBER 14, 1821.

The Court of Directors of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, having on the 6th and 18th of July last, issued public advertisements, giving notice that measures had been adopted which might lead to the Discharge of a large portion of the existing Indian Loans, and that the Court had authorized their Bengal Government to open a new 6 per cent. Loan in India to which the then present 6 per cent. obligations of 1811 would be transferable; and whereas, by advices recently received from India, the Court of Directors are informed, that, on the 1st of May, 1821, the Governor General in Council, at Fort William, gave notice that the promissory notes of the Bengal Government, standing on the general register of the registered debt of that Presidency, bearing date the 30th of June, 1811, and numbered 1 to 10,000 inclusive, would be discharged at the General Treasury, on Tuesday, the 31st of July last, on which day the interest thereon would cease, but that any of the notes advertised for payment would, until further orders, be received in transfer to the new Loan then opened; and whereas the Court's intention of opening a new Loan in India, as set forth in their before-mentioned advertisements of the 6th and 18th of July last, has thus been anticipated by the Bengal Government; the Court of Directors do hereby give notice, that the measures in contemplation by the Court, and adverted to in their said advertisements of the 6th and 18th of July last, are to be considered as entirely void and of none effect. And whereas in the advertisement published by the Bengal Government, in the Calcutta Gazette, on the 1st of May last, notice was given that Transfers of the Notes advertised to be paid off to the New Loans were to be received until further orders, and by the 11th clause of the conditions of the New Loan, the accounts of the said Loan are to be closed on the 31st of March, 1822. And whereas Proprietors of the Promissory Notes advertised to be paid off, resident in Europe, may not be enabled to convey instructions to India for the transfer of their property into the New Loan, before the said Loan shall have been closed in, the Court of Directors do hereby give notice, that they have directed their Bengal Government to permit the Transfer of all Promissory Notes of the 30th of June, 1811, to the Loan of the 1st of May, 1821, which notes shall be tendered in India on or before the 30th of June, 1822. And whereas it appears by the 4th clause of the conditions of the said Loan of the 1st of May, 1821, that the Proprietors of Promissory Notes transferred to that Loan, resident in Europe, might, if they required it, be paid the interest on their notes up to the 31st of December, 1821, by bills on the Court of Directors, at 12 months' date, and at 2s. 6d. the sicca rupee; the Court of Directors in view to the further accommodation of proprietors resident in Europe do hereby further give notice, that those creditors, bona fide resident in Europe, who shall have transferred, or who shall transfer, in India their bonds of the Loan of the 30th of June, 1811, to the Loan of the 1st of May, 1821, by means of their agents duly authorized, on or before the 30th of June next, shall have the option of receiving their interest for another half year; namely, from the 31st of December, 1821, to the 30th of June, 1822, by bills on the Court of Directors at 12 months' date and 2s. 6d the sicca rupee; the bills to be drawn specifically, payable to the absent proprietor or his order, and not to the orders of any agent or agents whatsoever. But those absent creditors who shall have required or who shall require the payment of the principal of their obligations of the 30th of June, 1811, in cash, will not be entitled to the extended option of remittance of interest hereby conceded to subscribing absentees; all accruing interest due to them to the period when they may have demanded their principal shall be paid in cash only at the Treasury in Calcutta. The Court of Directors do further give notice, that the notes of absent creditors who shall omit to signify their intentions at the Presidency of Fort William, definitively, with respect to the promissory notes of the 30th of June, 1811, on or before the 30th June, 1822, will remain without interest from that period. The Court of Directors have also resolved, that, if the Bengal Government shall see no objection to the measure, creditors who have subscribed, or who may hereafter subscribe, to the Loan of the 1st May, 1821, may, if they think proper, employ the agency of the Accountant-General and Sub-Treasurer at the several Presidencies in India in procuring the remittance to England of the interest on their obligations by means of bills of exchange on the Court, to be purchased in the market at the current prices of the day, it being distinctly understood that no responsibility shall attach to the East India Company for the acts of those officers in virtue of the authority which may be thus given to them. The conditions of the loan of the 1st May, 1821, may be seen by application at the office of the Accountant-General at this house.

JOSEPH DART, Sec.

Europe Death.—On Tuesday, the 20th of November last, in the 70th year of his age, WILLIAM HAMMOND, Esq. of St. Alban's court, in the county of Kent.

Army Promotions.

WAR-OFFICE, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1821.

38th Regiment of Foot.—Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel S. Hall, from the 89th Foot, to be Lieutenant-Colonel without purchase.

Ensign R. Matthew.—Ensign A. Campbell.—Ensign T. Kerr.—Lieutenant A. Taylor, from half-pay of the 25th Light Dragoons.—G. B. O'Brien, from half-pay of the 4th West India Regiment.—Lieutenant A. Campbell, from half-pay of the 91st Foot.—Lieutenant J. Liston, from half-pay of the 47th Foot.—Lieutenant J. Buchanan, from the 89th Foot.—Lieutenant Armstrong, from half-pay of the 2d Foot.—To be Lieutenants, without purchase.

J. Campbell, gent. vice Matthew.—F. Tudor gent., vice Campbell.—H. C. Fraser, gent., vice Kerr.—To be Ensigns, without purchase.

Assistant-Surgeon J. Jobson, M. D. from half-pay of the 9th Royal Veteran Battalion.—To be Assistant-Surgeon.

54th Regiment of Foot.—Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Colquhoun Grant, from the 33d Foot, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, without purchase.

Ensign T. Fraser.—Ensign C. Hill.—Ensign J. Clark.—Lieutenant J. Lawless, from half-pay of the 60th Foot.—Lieutenant G. Foskey, from half-pay of the 5th West India Regiment.—Lieutenant G. Manners, from half-pay of the 2d Foot.—Lieutenant T. Lavingstone Mitchell, from half-pay Rifle Brigade.—Lieutenant J. Griffiths Beaven, from the 65th Foot.—Lieutenant F. Thornbury, from half-pay, Rifle Brigade.—Lieutenant J. Norman, from half-pay, 81st Foot.—To be Lieutenants, without purchase.

Godfrey C. Muudy, gent. vice Fraser.—Fenton, gent. vice Hill.—F. Considine, gent. vice Clarke.—To be Ensigns, without purchase.

Assistant Surgeon A. Shanks, M. D. from half-pay, 56th Foot.—To be Assistant Surgeon.

89th Regiment of Foot.—Brevet Major J. L. Basden to be Major, without purchase, vice Hali, promoted in the 39th Foot.

Commissions signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Southampton.

89th Regiment of Foot.—Brevet Major J. L. Basden to be Major, without purchase, vice Hali, promoted in the 38th Foot.

Commercial Reports.

LONDON NEW PRICE CURRENT, DECEMBER 4, 1821.

EAST INDIA PRODUCE.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Coffee, Java,				none		
Cheribon,	0	107	0	a	0	112 0
Bourbon,				none		
Mocha,	13	0	0	a	20	0 0
Cotton, Surat, d. per lb.	0	0	6½	a	0	0 8
Bengal,	0	0	5½	a	0	0 6½
Madras,	0	0	6½	a	0	0 7½
Bourbon,	0	1	1	a	0	1 6
Spices, Cinnamon, 1st quality, per lb.	0	7	3	a	0	8 0
2nd quality,	0	6	1	a	0	6 6
Cloves, Amboyna,	0	3	9	a	0	0 0
Ginger, per cwt.	0	10	6	a	0	11 0
Mace, 2d.	0	4	11	a	0	5 2
3d.	0	2	6	a	0	0 0
Pepper Black (Co's.)	0	0	7½	a	0	0 0
white,	0	0	13	a	0	0 14
Sugar, yellow fine	0	24	0	a	0	26 0
white	0	29	0	a	0	37 0
fine,	0	40	0	a	0	44 0
brown,	0	14	0	a	0	16 0
Indigo, blue and violet, per lb.	0	9	1	a	0	9 6
fine purple and violet,	0	8	10	a	0	9 0
good ditto,	0	8	10	a	0	9 0
Rice, Bengal yellow,	0	9	0	a	0	10 0
ditto white,	0	10	0	a	0	12 0
Silk, Bengal Skein, per lb.	0	14	6	a	0	17 1
Novi,	0	15	7	a	0	27 2
Organsine,	0	36	0	a	0	41 0
China, Nos. 1 to 3.	0	17	0	a	0	20 1
Saltpetre, rough,	0	23	0	a	0	25 0
British refined,	0	29	0	a	0	0 0

Cotton.—The Cotton market remains heavy; the purchases since our last are quite inconsiderable, yet the holders evince much firmness, and it is difficult to purchase at lower prices. The sales since our last consist of—in bond, 160 Bengals 5½d. fair. 6d. a 6½d. good fair to good; 120 Madras, good fair 6½d. and 6½d.; 10 Smyrna, good 8d. and duty paid, 70 Guira, 7½d. fair; a few Pata, 10d. good fair, and 8d. very ordinary and repacked; Stained Sea Islands 8½d. 8½d. damaged.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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Meeting in London.

PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER OF THE STATE OF IRELAND.

Times, London, December 5, 1821.

Yesterday (December 4) a meeting was held at the Thatched-house Tavern, of the Noblemen and Gentlemen connected by birth and property with Ireland, for the purpose of considering the propriety of presenting an Address to his Majesty, upon the unhappy state of that country. At one o'clock, about 100 gentlemen were present. Among them were the Earls of Darnley, Blesington, Killeen, Lord Clifton, and several Merchants, and country Gentlemen of Ireland.

Mr. TIGHE rose soon after one o'clock, and addressed the meeting. He said that, being one of those who were concerned in calling them together that day, under the conviction that the deep importance of the subject alone would bring together that great and most respectable attendance which he now saw around him, he was glad to find that his original expectation was not disappointed. He was pleased to have a practical opportunity of knowing that the great absentee interest of Ireland were (at least a great part of them) ready to afford their aid on such an occasion as the present. He rose for the purpose of moving that a Nobleman now present do take the chair—a Nobleman of whom he might say, notwithstanding his presence, that he never lost, upon any occasion, an opportunity of affording his prompt, zealous, and warm assistance, both in the Senate and elsewhere, for the good of his tenantry, and to promote the best interests of the country. In proposing, therefore, that the Earl of Darnley be pleased to take the chair, he begged at the same time to state, that the noble Earl was, he understood, pressed for time this day, and might, were the business protracted, be obliged to leave them. The business was, however, of that description, that he hoped it could be accomplished in a short time. The question was one which lulled in silence and peace all party feelings—which was free from those stings that irritated different administrations; and in looking at which, the only object to be kept in view was the necessity of adopting some measure which had a tendency to put an end to the most calamitous and distressing state of things which now afflicted their unhappy country. The honourable gentleman concluded by moving that the Earl of Darnley be requested to take the chair. (*applause.*)

The Earl of DARNLEY came forward and said, that he was present here this-day in consequence solely of having seen the public advertisement in the newspapers. That the object of the meeting was one which was most necessary at this moment, he readily allowed; and it was also, he thought, one which went home to the feelings not only of every Irishman, but of every individual in the empire who had a heart to feel for the situation of his fellow-men. (*hear, hear.*) Participating in this common feeling, he came up from the country to attend the meeting, and to show, so far as he could, his readiness to assist in any measure which had for its object the welfare of Ireland. He was ready to take the chair, subject to the limitation of being permitted to withdraw in the course of the day, should the business be unusually protracted. He hoped, then, they would not impose upon him, in taking the chair, the usual duty of remaining to abide the issue of a debate, should it be protracted beyond a reasonable period. He was from experience aware of the uncertain duration of public meetings, where every gentleman had a right to deliver his sentiments upon the topic in agitation. There must, however, be unanimity on such a subject as this. There would be always shades of difference in opinion among the best disposed men, when they assembled to look at an important subject. He repeated his readiness to take the chair subject to the limitations he had already mentioned; but he should rather, if they would permit him, decline the honour altogether, as he was pressed for time in the course of the day. He should, however, yield to the sense of the meeting, if they acceded to the honourable gentleman's proposition for his taking the chair. It being the unanimous wish of the meeting that the Earl of Darnley should take the chair, the noble Earl immediately complied with the general wish, and then said that he understood it was intended to propose an humble address to the King, praying that his Majesty would be graciously pleased to call Parliament together as speedily as possible to consider of the state of Ireland. It became the imperative duty of Parliament to look at the present calamitous state of that country, which now wore the most alarming appearance. Thinking therefore, as he did, that no time ought to be lost in seeking the advice and assistance of Parliament, he was not sanguine enough to believe that any thing very effectual could be done at the pressure of the moment, to do away the mischievous effect of centuries of misgovernment, which had produced at length the present melancholy state of things in Ireland. It was easy to apply military force to put down excesses engendered by human misery, and to check great outrages; but such measures would be vain, unless steps were taken to root out the evils which had produced so much wretchedness and crime. Unless measures be speedily adopted to put into a progressive state of amelioration the

great bulk of the population of Ireland, he was persuaded no eventual good could be effected for that country. In Parliament he could alone hope that some measure might be originated which would be likely to produce any real good. The circumstances of the moment were rather unfavourable for meeting together any considerable number of noblemen and gentlemen connected with Ireland. A great part of the landed proprietors of the country were necessarily at this moment in different situations, at such a distance from the metropolis, as to preclude their attendance at this meeting without the greatest personal inconvenience to their private affairs. He was glad, however, to find so many Irishmen of consideration present, who had thought it their duty to attend and consider the situation of their country, and act as became them towards it. The noble lord concluded by calling on the hon. gentleman near him to move whatever resolution he had prepared for the consideration of the meeting.

Mr. TIGHE said he should now propose to the meeting a petition to the King, which he had prepared, for the purpose of praying that his Majesty would be graciously pleased to convene Parliament with the least possible delay to consider of the state of Ireland. He should briefly explain the circumstance which induced so humble an individual as himself, without any of those advantages which belonged to others, to trespass upon their attention on the present occasion. He thought the present state of Ireland had arrived at such a crisis, that no time ought to be lost in applying to Parliament to investigate the situation of that unhappy country, and endeavour to apply a remedy, which, while it enforced the due execution of the laws, would afford due protection to the innocent, would punish the guilty, and at the same time extend such a remedy to the existing distresses of the people, as, upon minute investigation, they should appear to require. Without going into the complicated causes of the distress of Ireland, he might be permitted to fix the public mind, if not upon the real cause of the evils of Ireland, at least upon what were now contributing to that cause. There prevailed, he was sorry to say, in England, a total ignorance of the causes and extent of evils operating upon Ireland. One set of public writers attributed these evils to one particular system of government and one to another; others ascribed them to the supineness of the magistracy; others to the oppressive exactions of the landlords; others to one set of anti-Catholic politics, and the misconduct of some particular secretary; but all these causes were, so far as his experience instructed him, entirely erroneous. So far as his observation went, it gave him great satisfaction to bear testimony, that on no occasion, within his memory, had the state of occasional distress in Ireland been fairly attributable to any of these causes, which implicated the conduct of a variety of persons, in responsible situations from the highest officers of the Government downwards. He could repeat with confidence, that no Lord Lieutenant for the last 20 years was fairly chargeable with any mal-administration of the law, for the purpose of oppressing any portion of the people; but that, on the contrary, they had on every occasion upon which they were consulted, evinced the strongest desire to promote the happiness, welfare, and security of all classes of the community. They had, to his own knowledge, always shown the most prompt and laudable zeal to correct any abuses which had been committed, and to protect the people from the effect of those collisions to which their own passions in particular instances exposed them. As to the alleged exactions of the landlords, he could safely say, that the rents were called for in general under peculiar circumstances of lenity; that though the nominal rental of the country appeared large, yet the real receipts from the tenantry were small in comparison; and, in fact, the sum actually received by the landlord fell far short of the proportion paid by the general tenantry of England. Although the landlords were naturally enough cautious how they renounced their legitimate claims, yet in two great counties with which he was more particularly connected, he knew the landlords were not disposed to exact what the tenant could not pay, and that they were willing to leave unsettled much larger sums in rent than the landlords in this country were in the habit of permitting. As these rumours had always a prejudicial effect when they were unfounded, it was the more necessary to contradict them. Another grievance which it was alleged affected the interest of Ireland, was the tithe system. Perhaps, considering that system abstractedly, another plan might be better; the subject was one, no doubt, open to controversy, but practically, he must say, that the moderation of the clergy in collecting their tithes was indispensable and undoubted; and those who, like himself, paid tithes in both countries, could best appreciate the moderation of the Irish clergy in that particular. He denied that the magistracy of Ireland were supine, as some had alleged. There were certainly almost insuperable difficulties opposed to the exercise of their duties, and he knew it would be much better if the magistracy were so arranged as to act together in petty sessions, as they did in this country; it would enable them to act with more efficiency. It must also be kept in mind, that the unhappy disposition of the people to commit acts of midnight outrage, necessarily compelled the magistrate too often to act somewhat in the capacity of a constable; but generally, he must repeat, the magistracy of Ireland

were most willing and anxious to do their duty. To any of the causes which he had enumerated the grievances of Ireland were not assignable. It might then be expected of him to state what were the causes of so much insubordination. To this observation he must reply, that it did not become so humble an individual as himself to attempt to assign a cause for such serious disturbances: he thought it was quite enough for him, in justification of his part in calling the present meeting, to show that the existing evil was of such magnitude as to render it indispensable without delay to call together the whole legislative wisdom of the nation to deliberate upon the subject. The unhappy situation of Ireland was such as to call forth the exertions not only of every Irishman who had a stake in the country, but of every man who felt for the welfare of the whole empire, (for the pressure of the danger did affect the empire), to probe the evil. The state of things in Ireland was far more dangerous than one of open rebellion. Having made these general observations, he thought enough had been shown to induce that respectable meeting to adopt his proposition for calling together that body to which he looked up with confidence on the present occasion, to investigate thoroughly the whole subject. With that view he had prepared the following address to his Majesty, which with their permission he would now read:—

"We, your Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects, humbly presume thus to approach your Majesty, to express the sentiments of grief, horror, and alarm, excited in our minds by the state of that part of your Majesty's dominions with which we are more particularly connected by birth, property, or commercial relations. We are encouraged to do so by a grateful recollection of the truly paternal and beneficent spirit that occasioned and characterised your Majesty's late visit to Ireland. We venture humbly to represent to your Majesty, that a system of outrage and insubordination, among large portions of the labouring classes of that country, has for some years been manifested advancing to its present dreadful state of maturity, when the ordinary powers of civil government can afford no protection to the peaceable inhabitants, no restraint to the disturbers of the public peace. Crimes and distresses, at which the soul sickens, are daily presented to public view, while the causes and the remedies, except the single, and we fear unavailing, remedy of military force, appear to be beyond the knowledge or the powers of your Majesty's Government in Ireland. We feel it then, Sire, to be a duty to ourselves, to our country, and to our Sovereign, as faithful and attached subjects, to express our conviction, that to the collective wisdom and labours of Parliament Ireland can alone look for the restoration of tranquillity and good order, upon a sound and permanent basis, combining the most efficient means of enforcing the law, with a wise and humane attention to remove or alleviate the causes and distresses which may appear to have occasioned or exasperated the evil. And viewing with deep anxiety the protracted and uncertain period of its meeting, we most humbly petition your Majesty, that you may be graciously pleased to direct such measures to be taken as to your Majesty's wisdom may appear most expedient, to bring under the consideration of your Parliament with the least possible delay the present state of Ireland. To this measure we shall look with hope for a cessation of those outrages and calamities which afflict and disgrace a country more dear to us, and more valued by us, from the reflection that in the midst of its crimes and distresses, it has escaped even a suspicion of disloyalty or disaffection to your Majesty's Royal Person and Government."

When the Chairman put the question upon the address,

Mr. DANIEL DONOVAN (of Cork) rose, and congratulated the noble lord on the respectability of the present meeting, which he thought rather auspicious. He had the greatest hopes, from the known intentions of the King towards Ireland, that something might yet be done for that suffering country. Being a plain man and unaccustomed to public speaking, he had thrown a few opinions upon paper, which, if permitted he would now read. He was the more anxious to contribute his mite upon such an occasion as the present, because he found that he entertained upon many points an essential difference of opinion from the gentleman who proposed the Address. They had, however, he was willing to believe, both the same object in view, though they pursued it by different means. Mr. Donovan then proceeded to address the meeting from a written paper. He said that the present situation of Ireland, which he presumed they had then met to consider, though frightful, was not new,—the same outrages had often appeared within his own time, which comprehended the last half century. The bayonet had always been applied to repress them—a temporary calm had followed, but intolerable misery had again driven the wretched peasant to madness; and as he had never seen the Government apply any remedy but the bayonet, he in his turn resorted to the same weapon with frightful retaliation. A nation of the just pride of England could not perhaps bear to be told that her Government had for centuries been not only odious in Ireland, but such as was too well calculated to unhinge the whole frame of civil society in that country. It was factious, and exclusive, and penal. It unsettled property, and, by a mean jealousy, repressed manufacturing industry. England must be told that she owed much of forbearance,

much of conciliation, and something of her resources, to Ireland. This was a plain dealing country, and let her be told the truth, that Ireland could no longer bear the weight of taxation imposed upon her. Ireland must also be told that she had been cursed by a squandering, a proud, and an oppressive gentry. He knew there were great exceptions; but he believed their general character was as he had described it. An unpaid magistracy, which in England had been such a blessing, was in Ireland the source of much evil. Justice had never been fairly administered among the people; bills of indictment could either be found, or thrown out, among them, just as the party happened to have private interest with the grand jury. Every man knew that when these grand juries in Ireland assembled at the assizes, presentment jobbing was the chief business they attended to.

MR. TIGHE rose to order. He begged to assure the gentleman whom he interrupted, that he meant him no personal disrespect, but he must be aware he was transgressing order, in starting very angry topics which were quite foreign to the business of the meeting. They were now assembled to consider the propriety of addressing the King to convene Parliament. It must be obvious that the state of Ireland could only in Parliament be adequately discussed, with any hope of the application of a remedy. Any topic, therefore, which went to create disunion now, and induce an angry discussion, would certainly retard instead of promoting their object. (*hear, hear.*)

The CHAIRMAN said, that as he conceived the object of the present meeting, it was certainly open to any gentleman to disclose his opinion respecting the causes which had produced such a calamitous effect in Ireland. But on the other hand, perhaps, so large a field of discussion as the honourable gentleman's (Mr. Donovan's) observations invited, might lead to the expression of different and conflicting opinions, urged with the characteristic warmth of Irishmen, and leading to protracted and ultimately, perhaps, unpleasant discussions. He should not have, however, interrupted the hon. gentleman, had he not been called up by the point of order started; and he now left it to the hon. gentleman to consider whether, after what had passed, he would proceed to read his written observations. Much that he had read, he (the Chairman) feared, was but too strongly founded in fact,—the expediency of now uttering such facts might be a different question.

Mr. DONOVAN resumed, and said, that he could not think of proceeding against the wishes of the noble chairman; he had too high a respect for the noble lord's character to take a single step in contradiction to his feeling; but he trusted that he should be allowed three minutes more to read the few remaining observations he had to submit. He then proceeded to state, that much had often been said of the absentee property: it was true that it was great; and that the mode in which it was taken was a greater evil than the loss of the capital itself. A profligate class of agents and middle men had sprung up, who plundered the tenant while they cheated the landlord. All sympathy was thereby lost between landlord and tenant. He excluded from the list of useless absentees such men as the Duke of Devonshire and Earl Fitzwilliam, and honest Englishmen of their stamp who dealt fairly towards their tenantry. They were exonerated from any share in producing the present state of things in Ireland. But how was this state of things to be remedied? Heaven alone could tell. Some said by making men live on their estates,—others by taxing absentees. But they must first make the country fit for a human being to live in, before any of the absentees would, even for the sake of their own properties, give an occasional residence among them. They must discourage private distillation for the payment of their rents, and by so doing withhold the strong excitement which habits of smuggling and the intoxication of whiskey give to the commission of midnight outrage. They must cultivate better their own native resources, and encourage domestic industry. Something of course must be done by the legislature, besides making a barrack of the country. But from whom were they to expect that legislative assistance? Was it from such an Administration as the present? Was it from ministers whose principles of government were bigotted and despotic? No: he confessed he had no hopes from such men. They had neither the wisdom nor the honesty for the task; nor could any partial change in the Irish administration work any good for the country. What was their conduct on a late occasion? They deluded their Sovereign, who intended to serve Ireland.

Mr. TIGHE again rose to order, and said it gave him great pain to hear the observations in which the gentleman indulged. They were improper and extraneous, and he called upon the noble Chairman to interpose and prevent their continuance.

The CHAIRMAN said, that he had already declared he should not interrupt the hon. gentleman in stating his view of the state of Ireland: but he must say, that if this meeting expected to do any good to the cause it professed to serve—if it hoped to be of any use to Ireland, it must be by banishing from the discussion of the subject all party feeling. He need not appeal to the uniform tenour of his public life to protect himself from the imputation of being a eulogist of the present ministers

of their system. But he must repeat, that if there ever was an occasion when every lover of Ireland and of England ought to abstain from the indulgence of party feeling, this was that moment, (*hear, hear*). Otherwise, when Parliament met, it was quite impossible the deliberations of Parliament could be expected to have any good effect. He had abstained from interrupting the honourable gentleman when he made so heavy a charge against all the Irish absentees but two, although he (the Chairman) might confidently appeal to those who knew him, against being involved in the sweeping censure of the honourable gentleman.

Mr. DONOVAN said, that he should be the last man in the world to include the noble lord in that censure; and if the noble lord had heard him more distinctly, he would have found that he had named two noblemen as being principal exceptions, but had added that there were others of the same honest stamp, and certainly he meant to include the chairman among the few good men of that description. Mr. Donovan was again proceeding to inveigh against the ministers, when.

A GENTLEMAN rose and said—"I move, Mr. Chairman, that we do not hear that gentleman any longer." (*a laugh*.)

Mr. DONOVAN said he should only claim two minutes more of their attention—he knew he was treading upon tender ground, but said he was drawing to a close. He then referred to his paper, and that the ministers surrounded the King in Dublin, with the nobility, the clergy, and the pensioners. The whole tribe of placemen hid the people from the throne. The King was in fact shut out from all information of the real state of things, and the ministers deluded him by a mockery of idle parade and apparent grandeur, which covered over beggary and misery. Nothing could show more the poverty of Ireland than the utter inability of the people with all their good will, to contribute towards the intended palace; and could any thing exhibit more strongly the hollow character of the Irish placemen, than the fact that even they, with their hundreds of thousands each year out of the system—with the overgrown wealth of the church, and the plunder of the placemen, would only contribute a few thousands on such an occasion? The old remedy of coercion was again about to be applied in Ireland. He knew that outrage must be punished; but were there no evils to be redressed? Talk not to the peasant of Catholic emancipation. What matters it to him, if starvation be his fate, which church shall divide the spoil? But he called upon them to take care, that whatever remedy they now applied should go home to the peasant, and inspire him with confidence and hope. Their whole system of government in Ireland was too expensive; they paid too much for an influence that was bad, and nothing for an affection that would save them. They taxed the people too high for their means, and more than half what was got was pocketed by the mode of collection. The people could not bear this system any longer—their industry had no fair play. A solemn inquiry into the state of Ireland must take place, or the country was undone. But that inquiry would be a mockery, unless they declared at the outset that they were prepared to make great sacrifices, and to begin them with what were called the privileged orders: they, with the whole train of placemen and pensioners in Ireland, exacted too much from the public stock. This was the truth: he knew it was unpalatable; but it must be told. His stake was small in the country, he had suffered much from the present system, but he had happily survived much of its effects; he could not, however, but feel for his unhappy country. Notwithstanding the interruptions he had received, he had now concluded.

Mr. TIGHE assured the gentleman that it gave him pain to interrupt him, and he begged his pardon.

The CHAIRMAN.—I confess what the gentleman (Mr. Donovan) has read contains a great deal of truth, though perhaps in some parts exaggerated.

Mr. WILLS stated, that he attended the meeting as a representative of a society, which had been lately employed in devising means to abridge the poor rates, and to secure to the labourer a just reward for his industry. In that character he had had several communications with the Duke of Northumberland, the Duke of Devonshire, and several other large landed proprietors in Ireland; and therefore, though he should not have felt inclined to have addressed the meeting in his private capacity, he felt emboldened to trouble them with some suggestions which had met the approbation of the society to which he belonged. It appeared to them that one of the proximate causes of Irish distress was to be found in the operation of an act which sent Irish labourers from this country to their home without giving them the means of subsistence when they arrived there; another was to be found in the extraordinary depreciation of all kinds of produce, which, by rendering the tenant incapable of paying his rent, reduced him and his family to the greatest misery and wretchedness; and a third was to be found in the non-residence of a large proportion of the proprietors upon their estates in Ireland. To remedy the present evil condition of that unfortunate country, the society to which he belonged thought that the following plans would be highly efficacious:—

"First, That permanent and adequate employment be provided for the unoccupied; for which purpose, commissioners shall be appointed to act in union with his Majesty's Government, composed of the most distinguished personages connected by possessions with Ireland, (fifty being considered a suitable number), to be denominated General Commissioners. Besides these commissioners, local commissioners, composed of the magistracy, and other intelligent and patriotic characters, shall be chosen in the several districts, and appointed by the general commissioners.

"Secondly, That the said local commissioners shall hold such sittings as they shall deem most eligible, within such districts, to investigate and ascertain the above object, and to report thereon to the general commissioners.

"Thirdly, That the said investigation and report shall especially involve the following subjects, viz. the improvement of wastes, reclaiming bogs, &c. encouragement of fisheries, coast and internal improvements, culture of flax and hemp, and improvements in staple manufactures, and domestic manufacture by cotters, &c.; planting; also the subject of the size of farms, the creation of small farms, &c. Also the best mode of affording relief to such occupiers of land as, through a deficiency of the value of produce, are unable to pay their rents; it having been suggested that in some cases produce might be received at a stipulated average price. Also the eligibility of a repeal of certain taxes: also the best mode of protection and relief to the infirm and aged poor.

"Fourthly, That the funds required for the carrying the above into effect be supplied by Parliament by provisions similar to those of the Exchequer Bill Loan Act."

The worthy Gentleman added, that by these means the wounds of Ireland would be healed. With its grateful soil and numerous population, amalgamated with British habits and British feelings, she would amply repay our present exertions; realizing to the people comfort—to the landed proprietors their rents—to the state a guarantee of that mainstay of its prosperity, home trade, harmony, and success. He should now read to them certain extracts from a pamphlet, which he held in his hand, containing a succinct account of the miseries of Ireland.

Mr. WATSON came forward at this stage of the business to call the worthy speaker to order, who was certainly introducing into the discussion much irrelevant matter.

The Earl of DARNLEY trusted that the honourable gentleman, who had just been called to order, would confine himself to the question before the meeting, which was, whether it would be right for the present assembly to petition his Majesty to convene his Parliament at as early a period as possible, to take into consideration the distressed state of Ireland.

Mr. WILLS would defer to his Lordship's suggestion, though he thought it highly important that some public opportunity should be taken of making the people of England acquainted with the causes of the distress now too prevalent in Ireland. The military establishment, which events had rendered it necessary to call into existence in Ireland, would entail upon the inhabitants of this part of the empire a severe expense, which would make them acquainted with the existence of the distress itself.

The noble CHAIRMAN promised the worthy gentleman, if he would give him the name of the publication to which he alluded, he would peruse it before the meeting of Parliament.

Mr. WILLS said that the title of the book was, "Observations on the population and resources of Ireland," by Whitley Stokes, M. D.

Mr. CORRY, after a few observations, which were not audible in that part of the room in which we were, proposed the adoption of the following petition, instead of that proposed by Mr. Tighe.

"Most Gracious Sovereign,—We, your Majesty's ever loyal and dutiful subjects, the noblemen, gentlemen, merchants, and others, natives of Ireland, resident in London and its vicinity, beg leave humbly to represent to your Majesty the deplorable state to which that country is at present reduced; humanity shudders at the bare recital of such horrid and diabolical crimes.

"When your Majesty so lately condescended graciously to visit that island, your Majesty's paternal heart felt sensations of delight at the cordial, dutiful, and affectionate reception your Majesty experienced from the warm-hearted sons and daughters of Erin; but alas! great Sir, what sorrow will the paternal and susceptible heart of your Majesty now feel, on being made acquainted with the dreadful scenes passing there at this moment. No law, divine or human, is respected; and neither life, person, nor property are secure or protected; but the most atrocious and appalling murders are daily perpetrated with impunity. Most august Sir, we whose names are hereunto subscribed, agonized with this truly distressing state of our native land, most humbly implore your Majesty to take the same into your royal consideration, and give

such order on the meeting of parliament, as in your Majesty's wisdom the nature and urgency of the case requires. And we shall ever pray, &c."

A Gentleman seconded this motion.

The noble CHAIRMAN believed, that the first question which he had to put would be, Whether any petition at all ought to be presented to his Majesty for the speedy convening of Parliament? After that was decided the next question would be, which of the two petitions presented to their notice the meeting would adopt? The object of the last of them was to entreat his Majesty to lay the state of Ireland before Parliament as soon as it should be assembled: that of the first was to implore his Majesty to call Parliament together as early as possible to take into its serious consideration the calamitous state of that country. After having thus stated the different nature of the two petitions, he should proceed to put the question whether they would present any petition to his Majesty at all.

Mr. S. RICE, M. P., rose to say a few words before the question was put, in consequence of a promise which he had made to his hon. friend, the member for Waterford (Sir John Newport), to represent to the meeting the sentiments which they both entertained as to the object for which it had been convened. The hon. member then proceeded in his own name and in that of Sir John Newport, to object to the presenting of any petition to his Majesty at all; and in the next place, to object to the constitution of the meeting and to the expediency of calling it together at present. He could not help feeling that whether it expressed itself in favour of the adoption of vigorous measures to put down the existing disturbances, or whether it displayed a strong sympathy with the distresses which had excited them, much danger was likely to arise on the other side of the water, and only trifling advantages: for could any man doubt of the willingness of his Majesty's ministers to assemble Parliament, if under the circumstances which had come to their knowledge, they deemed the emergency in Ireland to be such as required its immediate intervention? He was not in the habit of placing more confidence in his Majesty's ministers than was the noble Lord in the chair; but they must be destitute of the common feelings and sympathies of men, if the country might not expect of them to call Parliament together when the distressed situation of any part of the empire rendered such a measure necessary. He repeated, that he should doubt of the propriety of presenting a petition from that meeting to the King, even supposing it to be regularly convened; but how had it been assembled? He called upon the gentlemen then present, as they valued the interests which they had at stake in Ireland, to consider that point, and to pause before they established a precedent which could not be productive to them of any thing but evil. An anonymous paragraph had appeared in all the daily papers, announcing a meeting of the gentlemen connected by birth, property, and education, with Ireland. On seeing the paragraph, he felt that it was an object to know by whom the meeting had been summoned. He saw that the summoners of it had given it a local habitation at the Thatched-house: and he wished to know whether they had also given it a name. In consequence, he applied at the bar of the Thatched-house tavern for the names of the persons who had taken the room. He was told that it had been taken in the name of a stationer in the neighbourhood. He called upon the stationer to see whether he could obtain any further intelligence; but the stationer he found unwilling to give him any, either as to the name or rank of the individuals who had employed him. The meeting were now aware of the secret manner in which they had been individually called together, and he trusted that they would now attend to the time which had been fixed for its assembling. For one half of the year, it was well known that only a few Irishmen were to be found in London—would to God that there were even still fewer—and the present season was not that in which they were to be found in the greatest numbers. Now if they established a precedent of this nature, that any anonymous gentleman, by putting a paragraph into the public prints, might call together a meeting of Irishmen, and prevail upon it, no matter whether it were small or great, to adopt any paper which he might propose to them as their act, when the majority of their countrymen were not in town—a paper might be put forward as theirs on some occasion when they were absent, and their rights might be disposed of, without their knowing any thing of the matter, by an anonymous advertisement in any of the papers of the day. He should always oppose any document that was so prepared in secret. If gentlemen should think it right to stimulate Government to enforce vigorous measures in Ireland, let them put their names to a requisition for a meeting for that purpose; and then he would not shrink from a discussion of any measures which they might deem it their duty to bring forward. Yet even in a meeting so called, he would oppose the presentation to his Majesty of such a petition as those now proposed, as both unnecessary and replete with danger. Much more should he oppose it in a meeting constituted as the present meeting was. They were peculiarly happy in having the Earl of Darnley present among them, as he was certain to add lustre to any cause which he thought proper to patronize. But with the exception of that nobleman, who were they whom he saw

round him? Mere adventitious guests at the Thatched-house tavern,—not the noblemen and gentry of Ireland, as the advertisement had described them. The honourable member, before he sat down, said, that he hoped no one would consider him to be indifferent to the interests of Ireland on account of the speech which he had just made. He had only recently returned from Ireland, after a residence of two months in the county of Limerick; and he must observe that he must be more or less than man who could behold the events passing in that miserable country without giving to them his sincerest sympathy.

The noble CHAIRMAN felt it to be necessary, in consequence of what had fallen from the last speaker, to explain the circumstances under which he had been persuaded to take the chair. After recapitulating them, he observed that there certainly were some objections to the manner in which the meeting had been constituted, and to the time being fixed for it, which had precluded the attendance of many gentlemen intimately connected with Ireland and its interests; he therefore begged leave to suggest to his worthy friend Mr. Tighe, whether it might not be better to adjourn the meeting till a greater number of persons should be able to attend it, and not to press his motion at present to a division. (*hear, hear.*)

Mr. TIGHE explained, and defended the circumstances under which the meeting had been assembled. The present was the third meeting which he had attended at the Thatched-house tavern as an Irish proprietor, and all of them had been called by anonymous advertisements. Those who had joined with him in summoning the present meeting, knew that no names could add weight to the cause which they had at heart, and trusted only to its intrinsic importance for the collection of a meeting. With regard to the mischief which it was said that the measures now proposed might produce in Ireland, he begged leave to remark, that if Mr. Rice had just returned from Limerick, he must have known that the magistrates, and gentry of that county had very recently met and signed a series of resolutions, expressive of their anxious wish that the state of Ireland should be submitted to the notice of his Majesty. Alluding to the Chairman's suggestion for adjourning the decision on his (Mr. Tighe's) motion, till they could have the advantage of the attendance of more of the great Irish proprietors, he said that as a private individual he could have no objection to it; but at the same time he was still of opinion, that there could be no objection to their presenting to his Majesty the petition which he had proposed, if they had a full conviction of its propriety and necessity. In conclusion he said, that it would add consolation to many of their distressed countrymen in Ireland, to find that there were numbers in England who felt for their situation, and were anxious to afford them every relief within their power.

Colonel MAUNSELL expatiated for some time on the dangers of Ireland, which he said were daily increasing. The laws in existence were not sufficient to meet the evil; so that there was no hope of restoring quiet to Ireland but in the exertions of Parliament. To obviate the objections which had been made, and in his opinion justly, to the mode of their meeting, he should propose that the noblemen and gentlemen then present should join in a requisition for a meeting at some other time; and in order to give an opportunity for carrying that proposition into effect, he should move that an advertisement be inserted in the public prints, for calling a meeting upon the requisition of their noble chairman and other gentlemen who might be disposed to sign it.

Mr. RICE was anxious to address a few words to the meeting, before any particular line of conduct was adopted. He must observe, in the first place, with regard to the advertisement which had been inserted in the newspapers, that the present meeting stood on grounds very different from those which had been referred to, as having formerly taken place. On those occasions the invitation to assemble was supposed to originate with persons of very high rank, and, therefore, such meetings were met, as it were, simultaneously. That was not the case in the present instance. Previously to moving the question of adjournment, he wished gentlemen to consider, whether it was possible to render this meeting practically successful? He did not wish to embarrass this question by any observation or suggestion of his, and he should be sorry if those who were now fighting the battle for Ireland were interrupted in their career, in consequence of any proceeding adopted at a meeting held in London. He would not have it understood, that the conduct of those who were on the spot was to be influenced by any proceeding here. Gentlemen ought, he conceived, to come forward of their own accord, as far as circumstances permitted, to restore the peace of their country. There were, however, many persons, who, like his Lordship, owed at once double allegiance—an allegiance both to England and Ireland. Such persons could not be expected to proceed to Ireland on every occasion that occurred. If they did, they must inevitably sacrifice interests and duties of paramount importance. For his own part, he could not help thinking, that a meeting of gentlemen, in England, on this subject and at this moment, was throwing a species of slight on the exertions of individuals in Ireland, who were able to put down the disturbances there; and would,

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he doubted not, effect that object. He had received a letter yesterday from Ireland, which informed him, that the three parishes nearest to his residence were now in a tranquil state. This was certainly like a return to pacification. Looking to the ordinary course of proceeding in cases like the present, and paying that proper degree of deference to Government which he thought was due to it, he felt that the present was not the proper moment for agitating this question. Besides, Parliament would meet very soon. A short time only was necessary for issuing the writs, and assembling the great council of the nation. What necessity then was there, at so advanced a period, to enter on the discussion of this subject, when, according to the usual routine, Parliament would meet in January, and the question would be fully considered. The present could only be considered as a meeting of gentlemen who were but partially acquainted with the state of Ireland; and, however anxious they might be for the welfare of that country, it was impossible for them to act decisively, unless they were in possession of accurate information. Under such circumstances he conceived it would be more prudent to leave the business to the cool deliberation of Government, and, for that purpose, he should move, "That the present meeting be adjourned *sine die*."

Lieut.-Colonel TORRENS rose to second the motion of the hon. gent. (Colonel Maunsell) who had proposed that a regular requisition should be signed and published, preparatory to a formal meeting, at which the present state of Ireland should be taken into consideration. He trusted that when a meeting was regularly convened, those who attended it would pursue the course adopted by their noble chairman, and, divesting themselves of every thing that savoured of party feeling, would make it their sole study to remedy the ills under which Ireland laboured. (hear.)

Mr. S. TIGHE was willing to withdraw his petition, provided another meeting was called.

Colonel MAUNSELL.—As to that part of the country in which the hon. gentleman (Mr. Rice) resides being quiet, it is not extraordinary, since the houses of all the gentlemen have been broken into, and robbed of their arms.

Mr. RICE.—My arms, Colonel Maunsell, have not, I thank God and my country, been taken from me.

The CHAIRMAN said, he wished, lest the motion of adjournment should be carried, to state his view of the nature of the present meeting. It rested solely on this plain question—whether it was expedient to call on his Majesty to convene Parliament at the earliest period, for the purpose of considering the state of Ireland, or to show a certain degree of apathy, with reference to this important subject, by letting the matter rest until Parliament met for the despatch of business, in January or February? This was the only question they had to consider; and he was sorry to observe that a great deal of what had been said in the course of the discussion was not only extraneous, but calculated to create mischief both here and elsewhere.

Mr. S. TIGHE wished to suggest to the meeting a course which would, perhaps, meet the views of every person in the room. If gentlemen were of opinion that Colonel Maunsell's amendment should be carried, by which provision was made for calling another meeting, he would most cheerfully withdraw his petition, for the present. At the same time, he could not be brought to believe that the meeting then assembled was not competent to give an opinion on this question. Still, though he was quite confident that the present meeting could express an opinion which would be beneficial to Ireland and honourable to themselves, yet he thought it would have a better effect if it were not pronounced until the subject had been more maturely considered. He never could agree, however, that the meeting should adjourn *sine die*, when they were assembled to take into consideration the unparalleled crimes of which Ireland was now the theatre, and to devise means for checking the dangers which threatened the very existence of society in that country.

The CHAIRMAN.—Taking the view of the subject which he entertained, it would not, he thought, be proper for him to put his name to any advertisement calling a future meeting, because such a meeting could not have the effect of causing Parliament to be called together sooner. It was now the 4th of December: and some reasonable time must be given before the new meeting was convened. It would be then so near the time at which Parliament was accustomed to assemble, that no utility could be derived from the meeting. If it were the pleasure of the meeting to adjourn *sine die*, there was an end of the matter; but he must guard himself from any improper interpretation of his conduct, if he declined setting his name to an advertisement or requisition. If the present meeting were not competent to transact the business for which they were called together, he knew not how any other meeting could. If they wanted the presence of those who were at a distance, that object could not be effected until after Christmas; and at that time a meeting of this nature would be of little value.

Dr. ROCHE was in favour of an immediate proceeding.

Mr. BLAKE said it was very obvious that the executive body of this country was, at the present moment, anxiously attending to Irish affairs. A change in the Government of Ireland had been, or was about to be, made. That Government was, indeed, in a state of dissolution; and he would ask, could the new Government effect any thing towards improving the state of Ireland, until they had gone to that country, and examined its situation? He entreated the meeting not to erect itself into a sort of perpetual club, which would inevitably be the case if they adjourned now to some indefinite period.

The Earl of BLESINGTON agreed with the hon. gentleman who last addressed the assembly, that it would be very improper if they were to form themselves into a sort of club or small parliament, to dictate to the Government what was to be done in this emergency; but if he understood the question rightly, it was merely whether they should request the King to call Parliament together at the earliest possible period? Without any intention of embarrassing the Marquis Wellesley, or of throwing censure on the conduct of Lord Talbot, they had, as gentlemen of Ireland, a right to call on Parliament to inquire into the dreadful disturbances which prevailed in that country. His noble friend would do him the justice to recollect, that he had endeavoured to bring this question before the House of Lords. He had failed—he need not state why; but he had been unable to accomplish his object. The House of Commons was, however, the proper place for entertaining a subject of this nature; and if Parliament were called together, that branch of the legislature would be obliged to consider it, which they had hitherto avoided. As to an adjournment, he thought no good could arise from it.

Mr. C. WATSON wished, instead of adjourning *sine die*, that the meeting should agree to a resolution, expressing their confidence that his Majesty would take the best means for securing the tranquillity of Ireland.

Little Waddington of radical notoriety, now stepped forward and requested the noble Chairman to allow an humble individual to offer a suggestion. No attention was paid to his request, and he retired, exclaiming against the partiality that was shown to the rich and powerful.

Mr. RICE was of opinion that the present proceeding would only tend to encourage the insurgents. It would lead them to suppose that the great landed proprietors found it necessary, in consequence of their fears, to meet together for the purpose of passing resolutions.

The question of adjournment was then put, and negatived.

Mr. WRIXON BECHER agreed in the propriety of presenting a petition to his Majesty, requesting him to call Parliament together as speedily as possible. In all cases of difficulty and danger, Parliament was the best body, to whom the King or his Ministers could have recourse. He therefore, was desirous that Parliament should be immediately convened, without however, wishing that any strong measures, which other gentlemen might have in view, should be carried into effect.

The CHAIRMAN suggested to the last speaker the propriety of his moving that, under all the circumstances, it was the opinion of that meeting that his Majesty should call Parliament together as speedily as possible.

Mr. S. TIGHE said he would second that motion, since no gentleman could have any other object but that of having this question taken up by Parliament as soon as possible.

Mr. W. BECHER then moved "That an humble address be presented to his Majesty, requesting his Majesty to convene Parliament as speedily as possible;" and suggested that the address should be signed by the noble Chairman.

Mr. S. RICE.—On behalf only of the majority of the meeting.

After a few observations from Mr. BLACKE, who objected to the motion, because it called on the Crown imperatively to convene Parliament, instead of requesting that such a step should be taken into consideration, Mr. Becher's amendment was embodied in the resolution, which then stood thus:—"That a petition be presented to His Majesty, praying that he will be graciously pleased to take into his consideration the propriety and expedience of convening Parliament with as little delay as possible, for the purpose of submitting to its deliberation the present alarming state of Ireland."

This resolution was now put to the meeting, and carried.

It was then resolved, that a petition, founded on the above, be drawn up, and being signed by the noble Chairman, should be sent for presentation to the Secretary for the Home Department.

The Earl of Darnley having left the chair, and the Earl of Blesington having been called thereto, the thanks of the meeting were unanimously voted to the former nobleman for his dignified and impartial conduct in the chair.

Happy Close of the Revolution in Mexico.

Come bright Improvement on the car of time
And rule the spacious world from clime to clime;
Thy handmaid arts shall every wild explore,
Trace every wave, and culture every shore.
On Erie's banks where tigers steal along,
And the dread Indian chaunts the dismal song,
Where human fiends on midnight errands walk,
And bathe in brains the murdering tomahawk;
There shall the flocks on thymy pasture stray,
And shepherds dance at summer's opening day;
Each wandering genius of the lonely glen
Shall start to view the glittering haunts of men,
And silence watch on woodland heights around,
The village curfew as it tolls profound.

CAMPBELL.

Scotsman, November 10, 1821.

It is but two months since we called the attention of our readers to the critical state of Mexico, and ventured to predict an important and speedy change in that country. We have not been disappointed. Mexico has at last reaped the fruits of her noble exertions, and conquered her independence. The armistice between the new Spanish Viceroy, O'DONOHUE, and the Patriot Chief, ITURBIDE, on the 24th August, has put the seal to the good work. It is possible, but by no means probable, that the Spanish military in the capital, who lately chose a Viceroy for themselves, may dissent from the agreement. The sanction of FERDINAND's viceroy will bring over most of the official persons, and transfer the title of rebel to the military if they still hold out. Upon the whole, we may now congratulate our readers on the fortunate and glorious termination of the Mexican revolution.

Let us now reflect a moment on the madness which has prolonged this desolating contest for eleven years. It is a melancholy truth, that collective bodies of men who act without responsibility, are generally less under the influence of reason than individuals. When a war, especially a civil war, is once begun, an insane pride, and a frantic rage, take the place of sober views of interest. Mutual injuries exasperate the spirits of the belligerents, till each forgets its own advantage in the eager desire to wound its adversary. In our American war, the first movements might have been mistaken for the act of a party; but from the moment it was seen that the cause of the rebels was national, it was plain to the reason of every sane man, though not to the wisdom of Parliament, that the contest on our part was fruitless. Nothing less, however, could serve our folly, than disasters, humiliations, loads of debt, and the capture of our armies. It was still more obvious, when one patriot army sprung up after another in Mexico, that Spain could not by any human means keep her colonies many years longer, and that while she did retain them, they would be a burden to her rather than a support. Pride and rage, however, shut the eyes of the Spaniards to this truth, which was palpable to all the rest of the world seven years ago. It was her interest to seize the first decent pretext to give up as a boon, what was sure to be extorted at no distant date by force; to make friends and allies of those whom she could no longer hold in subjection; and not to ruin a people, with whom the ties of common laws, language, and blood, might have enabled her to form new and profitable connections. This would have been sane and rational policy. But what has her conduct been? Taking counsel of her pride, she has been seen, like a destroying angel, spreading proscription, massacre, and desolations, among those whom she calls her children. The cabalistic word *rebel*, silenced the voice of reason, policy and humanity. She gave up nothing till she was beaten into weakness and humility. She has made bitter enemies of those whom the slightest timely concession would have converted into firm friends. And she has exhausted herself by violent efforts without any other effect than that of exhibiting herself more completely foiled and defeated, and adding a new and fearful list of cruelties to those which already disgrace the Spanish name. Such isenante conduct is the natural fruits of that system, teaching rulers to regard their fellow men as their property, silencing every complaint with the scourge or the bayonet, and considers the slightest attempt to ameliorate the state of society as a more atrocious crime than theft or murder.

The desperate state of the Spanish affairs in Mexico is undoubtedly the true cause of the conclusion of the armistice. But the success of the Patriots in Brazil and in Venezuela has probably had an effect on both parties. We are willing to believe also, that the new Viceroy going out under the auspices of the Spanish constitutional government, would carry with him more liberal and moderate views than one of FERDINAND's satraps. Not having the heated feelings of a partisan, he must have seen that the contest was hopeless, and therefore pernicious to Spain. He must have been sensible, too, that the military having deposed one Viceroy, and elected another, had in truth cast off the authority of the mother country, and reduced her interest in the contest to a nullity. It would be true wisdom in Spain to apply the lesson which events have

taught her to her other colonies. But whether she does or not, she cannot arrest the great march of events. Probably before this time, the emancipation of Mexico will be known in Lima, and give the finishing blow to the royal cause in Peru. Brazil has already shown an impatience to cut the cords that blind her to Portugal. And having both the power and the will, we may be sure that old predilections will soon yield to just views of self-interest. In short, having the chain of events and cause thus laid open to us, it requires no gift of prophecy to discover, that within twelve or eighteen months, the whole of Spanish and Portuguese America will be independent.

The armistice recognises three fundamental principles:—1. Mexico is to be entirely independent of Old Spain. 2. An equality of rights, so that Mexicans of whatever rank or caste, Indians, Africans, or Spaniards, are to be subject to the same laws, and eligible to all offices. 3. The government is to be vested in a King, controlled by a Cortes, or representative assembly. Till the Cortes can be assembled, a provisional government is to be formed. These terms, if faithfully executed, embrace all that could be desired. But, in fact, whatever the particular terms had been, Mexico, in gaining her independence, gains every thing, because the root of all her grievances lay in her subjection to Spain. Her industry was cramped; her people kept in ignorance and slavery; her religion was converted into a system of pious frauds; and her laws into engines of extortion, in order that she might be a quiet and unresisting prey to a horde of needy adventurers from Europe. To the countless evils springing from this source, the revolution will be an instant and effectual remedy. Her future rulers, chosen from among her own citizens, will at least have in some degree the same interest with those they govern. It will no longer be a crime to cultivate a few vines, or to manufacture a pound of gunpowder. Her trade will not be burdened with monopoly profits for the benefit of foreign merchants, and enormous duties levied for a foreign sovereign. The Mexicans may not have the knowledge to build up a system like the great work of FRANKLIN, WASHINGTON, and JEFFERSON, but they have at least brought the ir government within the reach of amelioration. Those old corruptions and abuses which lifted up drones and sycophants to power, and which these drones and sycophants perhaps landed, as the *pride of ages*, the wonder and envy of nations, must speedily share the fate of the government that supported them. The old system is broken up with all its outworks of fraud, cruelty, and superstition. The Mexicans may now judge and discuss whatever concerns their public interest; they may adapt their government to their circumstances; and if they err, amendment will be comparatively easy, for their errors will not have that prescriptive sanctity which chains up the powers of thought and reason. What immense advantages are comprised in such a change?

Imagination cannot easily conceive the vast consequences which may arise from the entire emancipation of South and North America. Asia and Africa are peopled with barbarous or semibarbarous nations, whom the Europeans can neither dispossess, nor reclaim to civilised habits. These nations contribute little to commerce—nothing to art or science. In all that relates to morals, politics, religion, laws, philosophy, every thing that gives happiness or dignity to human nature, these vast regions are absolute deserts. But the active and enlightened population of Europe has established itself in America, from one end of the continent to the other; and has carried with it arts and knowledge, and the seeds of progressive improvement. Whatever mixture may take place, it is clear that the European race will predominate, and give a character to the whole. The example of the United States shews us with what rapidity population increases in new countries, when not crushed by a bad government. Now that the fetters of the Spanish and Portuguese colonies are struck off, there is little doubt that these parts of America, possessing every conceivable advantage of soil, climate, and situation, will spring forward with equal rapidity. Unless some adverse change occur, which there is no reason to anticipate, it is almost demonstrable that South and North America will contain, in two hundred years, four or five hundred millions of inhabitants. The population of Europe at present, including the semibarbarians of Turkey and Southern Russia, does not exceed one hundred and eighty millions. Here, then, we shall have a country, three times as large as Europe, filled with a free, intelligent, and industrious people, cultivating and improving the arts, enlarging commerce by new wants and new productions, and opening a boundless field for the speculations of the philosopher, and the enterprise of the man of genius.—Three new Europes will be created in America, or the civilised part of mankind will be multiplied four fold. These results seem wonderful, and yet they are not fanciful. It is only necessary to suppose, that the Mexicans and South Americans may be capable of the same improvement as the people of the United States. Tyrannies may be established in these countries, and arrest their progress; but they have at least shaken off one vicious system, and obtained what they never had before, a chance of bettering their condition. Worse they cannot be for themselves, and better they must be for their neighbours. So long as the Spanish dominion endured, these countries were of little more value to mankind, than the small quantity of gold and logwood they sent to Europe. Hitherto Columbus may be said to have

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discovered them in vain. It is their emancipation which has given them truly to the world, and can alone warrant sanguine anticipations as to their future progress.

But without relying on the future, a great present good has been accomplished in destroying one of the basest systems of tyranny which ever was devised. The march of liberal principles is quickened in every country, even in this, by the influence of such events. Legitimacy is seen so closely allied with ignorance and superstition, and so directly opposed to justice, reason and humanity, that every such revolution makes more converts to the side of independence than a thousand speculations. Let it also be recollected, that all these gratifying changes, which have done so much good, and promised to do so much more, are the remote effects of the American, and the immediate effects of the French revolution, which our sapient antijacobins are continually declaiming against as the source of nothing but crime and misery.

City Addresses.

The Lord Mayor, attended by the late Lord Mayor, Sir W. Curtis, Sir C. Flower, Sir J. Shaw, Aldermen Birch, Atkins, Brown and Lucas, the Recorder, Sheriffs, City Officers, and a great number of the Common Council, proceeded yesterday, to Carlton Palace, and respectively presented the addresses to his Majesty on his return from the continent, as follows:—

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

The humble and dutiful address of the Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the city of London.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

We your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the City of London, are anxious, at the earliest possible opportunity, to approach the throne, and offer our most sincere and cordial congratulations on your Majesty's safe and happy arrival in your British dominions.

Desirous of evincing the deep interest we take in every circumstance which can tend to confirm attachment to your Majesty's sacred person, as well as veneration for the honour and dignity of your crown, we can assure you, Sir, that yielding to none in willing and steady allegiance to our King, and in affectionate devotion to your royal house, we feel, in grateful sympathy with every honest heart, the fervent effusions of loyalty which your royal presence has excited in every class of your Majesty's subjects during your progress.

We are fully sensible of the many and great blessings which, under divine Providence, are secured to us by your Majesty's paternal care, and as we could not but experience considerable solicitude for the arrival of the hour which would bring back to us our beloved Sovereign in health and safety, so we most ardently join in the general joy at your return. The shield of Providence has been over you. Long may your Majesty wield the Imperial sceptre of these realms under the Divine protection; long may you preserve the glory and prosperity of the country, and enjoy the consolation of ruling over a free loyal and happy people.

(Signed by order of Court,) H. WOODTHORPE.

To which address the King was graciously pleased to make the following answer:—

"It is with the greatest satisfaction that I receive your congratulations upon my safe return to my British dominions.

"The sentiments of loyalty, of affection, with which I have been greeted during my absence from this part of my kingdom, were similar to your own, and to those which I am fully persuaded are entertained by all ranks and descriptions of my faithful subjects throughout the empire.

"The city of London may confidently rely upon my constant favour and protection, and I humbly trust that a gracious Providence will assist and prosper my earnest endeavours to promote the true interests and happiness of my people."

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

The dutiful and loyal Address of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the city of London, in Common Council assembled.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

"We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the city of London, in Common Council assembled, approach the throne with all those sentiments of veneration and respect which are implanted in the minds of a faithful and free people by the blessings which they enjoy under an invaluable constitution, and by the paternal regard of a revered and illustrious Monarch.

"We present ourselves before your Majesty on this occasion to offer our sincere and hearty congratulations on your Majesty's return to your native country in perfect health and safety; and while we felicitate your Majesty on that spirit of loyalty and affection which has manifested

itself in those parts of your Majesty's dominions which you have for the first time recently visited, we feel confident that your Majesty is perfectly assured that the citizens of London, in common with the people of Great Britain, will yield to none of your Majesty's subjects in zeal for your service, in attachment to your sacred person, and in a determination to uphold the honour and dignity of your Majesty's Crown.

"That the same gracious Providence which has protected your Majesty throughout your arduous journey may still preserve you long to reign in the hearts of your loyal and affectionate people, is the fervent prayer of your Majesty's faithful citizens of London.

(Signed by order of Court,) HENRY WOODTHORPE.

To which address the King was graciously pleased to return the following answer:—

"I receive with the utmost satisfaction this testimony of your feelings upon my safe return to my native country.

"Highly gratified as I am by the sentiments of loyalty and affection which I have been manifested in those parts of my dominions which I have recently visited, I am perfectly convinced that the same spirit animates the citizens of London, and all classes of my faithful people throughout the British dominions.

"You may be fully assured of my determination to maintain inviolate all your rights and privileges, and of the ardent solicitude which I shall ever feel for your welfare and prosperity."

Varieties.

GLUTTONS OF THE OLDEN TIME.—Furetiere, in the *Furetieriana*, says he saw a man eat a loin of veal, a capon, and two woodcocks, with a large quantity of bread.—Aglais, and a dancer, who lived 200 years before the birth of Christ, would eat for her supper, ten pounds of meat, with twelve loaves, and drink a large quantity of wine.—Theodoret gives an account of a Syrian woman, who ate thirty pullets every day, but was never satisfied. This, however, was an infirmity, of which Macedonius cured her, by making her drink holy water!!!—Phagon, in presence of the Emperor Aurelian, ate a whole boar, a sheep, a young pig, with a hundred loaves, and drank in proportion.—The Emperor Claudius Albinus ate for breakfast five hundred figs, one hundred peaches, ten melons, one hundred fig-peckers, forty oysters, and a large quantity of grapes.—The Emperor Maximian became so large in consequence of eating, that his wife's bracelets served him for rings to his fingers.—However remarkable these eaters may appear, they are nothing to equal the Emperor Vitellius. All the roads in Italy, and the two seas, were covered with people (says our author) to procure the most exquisite meats, and the scarcest fish for his table. He made four principal meals every day, and sometimes five. He was so little master of his hunger, that, during the sacrifices, he was often seen to snatch the animal's entrails from the fire half baked, and devour them in presence of the assembly. He invited himself to his friends houses, and made them treat him so sumptuously, that he nearly ruined them. His brother Lucius Vitellius once treated him with two thousand fishes, and seven thousand birds, all exquisite and scarce. He had always in his house a quantity of pheasants' livers, tongues of fishes, peacocks' brains, the entrails of lampreys, and every kind of fishes and birds at a great price. Josephus says, that had this prince lived long, all the revenues of the empire would not have been sufficient to maintain his table.—Maximinus Caius Julius, a Roman emperor, used to eat in one day 64 pounds worth of meat, and drink 24 quarts of wine.

An Irish labourer having been lately employed in mending the pavement in Fenchurch Street, placed a heap of stones near the house of a surly shopkeeper, who, in an angry manner, ordered him to remove them. "And where will I be taking them?" said the poor man. "Take them to h—l if you like replied the citizen. "Praise your honour," says Pat, "I'm thinking they'd be there in your honour's way!"

Mr. H—e, who drives a pair of fine dun geldings in a carriage, met Lord S—, and accosted him with "You see I have changed my colour; I now drive duns." "The devil you do?" says his Lordship, "That is a change for the better indeed! I remember when the duns used to drive you"

THE MEETING.—Two friends, who had not seen each other for a long time, met on the exchange at Paris. "How are you?" said one. "Not very well," said the other. "So much the worse: what have you been doing since I saw you last?" "I have been married." "So much the better." "Not so much the better, for I married a bad wife." "So much the worse." "Not so much the worse, for her fortune was 2000 louis." "So much the better." "Not so much the better, for I laid out a part of that sum in sheep, which have all died of the rot." "So much the worse." "Not so much the worse, because the sale of the skins has brought me more than the original price of the sheep." "So much the better." "Not so much the better, for the house in which I had deposited the money has just been burned." "Oh! so much the worse." "Not so much the worse, for my wife was within."

Late American Papers.

Mexico—Fall of Vera Cruz.—The schooner *Junius*, which has arrived at this port from Havana, brings intelligence of the capture of Vera Cruz by the Patriots. This may be considered as nearly the closing scene of Spanish government in the new world—tho' war be prolonged—Spain may even send out an expedition in the hope of recovering a footing in these splendid regions, but the events in Colombia, Peru, Chili, and latterly in Mexico, preclude the possibility of her again obtaining dominion over a portion of the globe destined by nature for independence and freedom. The news of the fall of Vera Cruz was announced at Havana by the Spanish 74 *Asia* from the former place, having treasures and 270 passengers on board, followed on the succeeding day by the Spanish sloop of war *Diamond*, with more treasure and several passengers.—We see no reason to doubt the authenticity of the intelligence.

Bankrupt Law.—We perceive (says the New-York Advocate) that the Chamber of Commerce has called a meeting to petition Congress in favour of a Bankrupt Law, and we trust that the traders generally of our city will follow the example.

A more than ordinary desire prevails throughout the Union, that Congress should take up this subject as early as possible, and thereby afford some relief to the mercantile and commercial interests of the country, whose losses from the want of a well defined system of jurisprudence, applicable to cases of bankruptcy, are incalculable, and becoming every day more and more injurious.

Considering the facilities with which credit is obtained, it cannot be a matter of surprise that unprincipled and designing knaves should prey upon those who have goods to dispose of.—They are, in fact, encouraged in their depredations by the defective nature of our civil institutions, in which there is no provision to compel the fraudulent bankrupt either to render a faithful account of his dealings, or to prevent him from disposing of the property in his hands to some favorite creditor, or to some collusive associate, who, in order to participate in the plunder, lends himself to a transaction every way immoral, and destructive of that confidence which forms the basis of commercial dealing. How often do we witness assignments of property, under color of conveyances for the benefit of creditors, made to relations, or others, who have no claim upon the bankrupt, and whose only object is to preserve the property invested in their hands, for the use of the debtor, while the fair and onerous creditor, the dupe of the principal in this nefarious conveyance, is debarred from recovering any part of his debt. That such a state of things should exist in a society possessing, as we do, so many enlightened politicians, and having a government subjected, in every respect, to the control of the people, is a circumstance which has excited the astonishment of foreign nations, and may well excite our own astonishment, if but a moment's reflection is bestowed upon it.

How easy would it be to enact, that every man, in bankrupt circumstances, should be compelled to give up the whole of his property, not to persons which he should name, but to commissioners, trustees, or assignees, appointed from among the creditors themselves, who in consulting their own interest, would consult that of the whole body. To persons thus chosen, power should be given not only to take possession of every thing belonging to the bankrupt, his books and accounts, but strictly to investigate the claim of every one coming forward as a creditor, and to reject every applicant whose ground of debt was not clearly *bona fide*; or, in other words, a transaction entirely divested of fraud, or collusion with the bankrupt. A law, recognizing this principle as its basis, would effectually check the designs of the fraudulent, who are now in the full career of uncontrollable plunder only because the passive conduct of the legislator gives a sanction to their turpidity.

The honest and unfortunate debtor would also find, in a legislative measure of this nature, that aid which his misfortunes demanded. The law, which required him to make a full disclosure, would, at the same time, authorise that protection to be afforded him, which ought, in all cases, to be extended to the guiltless, particularly to those whose progress in life is retarded by the crimes of others, or by events beyond their controul. On a fair surrender of property, and an explicit disclosure of all circumstances, every man who has been unfortunate in trade, from causes no way implicating his integrity, is entitled to a full and ample discharge. Where it is otherwise, let all he has go to his creditors, and let him never be released of the debts he has fraudulently contracted, until the last cent is paid.

In all cases connected with the organization of civil society, it is desirable to revert to first principles. In passing a law to regulate matters of bankruptcy, we are not aware, if first principles are kept in view, that much difficulty can attend it. The fewer the enactments the better; and, perhaps, the less of what is called legal machinery, the more for the public benefit. We should rather have half a dozen plain sensible citizens employed in framing a law of this description than all the lawyers put together in the United States. We can never lose by simplifying our institutions; the danger lies in making them complex and intricate.

Bankrupt Law.—Various important questions will be brought before the next session of Congress to be debated; for, judging from past melancholy experience, we scarcely dare to hope that one will be decided. A general system of Bankruptcy seems almost to intrude itself on legislative notice. Since the last decision of the Supreme Court, that the insolvent laws of each particular state, are no further binding than as they affect the persons of the debtors; that all property subsequently acquired must be held responsible for their debts, it becomes extremely important to know in what relationship creditors and debtors do stand to each other. Several state legislatures now in session, are employed in discussing the question, whether a man shall be imprisoned for debt. While so much uncertainty prevails on this subject, while the Supreme Court declares that the person of the debtor is protected from arrest by an act of insolvency, and while our state legislatures are perhaps on the very point of passing a law that the debtor shall be free from arrest before he commits an act of insolvency, where so much diversity is shewn, it is tangibly evident that Congress cannot without a dereliction from duty, avoid legislation on this topic any longer. Let it be noticed, that any law which our petty local authorities may pass on the subject, will be disregarded by our Supreme Court; they touch an evil beyond their power to provide a remedy for; the relationship of debtor and creditor extends as wide as the boundaries of this continent; nay, it extends as wide as the civilized Universe, and no petty state sovereignty can interfere in such a case, any more than the legislature of Kentucky can declare war against Europe.

Resolutions indeed, such a body may pass, either exonerating a debtor from his obligations, or to declare war against an European power; but of what avail will they be, when they assume the character of a law? The Supreme Court of the United States will inform these grave politicians, that they have meddled with a matter beyond their jurisdiction, and will declare their proceedings null and void from their commencement. Meantime, the citizens of that particular state, who have been declared insolvent, and on the faith of the legislative enactments, acquired property again, will find their old creditors pressing for payment and taking their subsequently acquired property, any thing which a state can do to the contrary notwithstanding. Bankruptcy is a subject put by the constitution exclusively under the controul of our national legislature. Wherever local authorities have tampered with this delicate business, they have done nothing or worse than nothing; they have declared that a man is exonerated from the payment of his debts when he is not exonerated; they have put forth false hopes and lures, which have proved in the end, as abortive and visionary as the Pagan banquets in the infernal regions, of whom the muse of Virgil thus speaks: The ghosts

"Lie below on golden beds displayed,
And genial feasts with regal pomp are made;
The Queen of furies by their sides is set,
And snatches from their mouths th' untasted meat,
Which if they touch, her hissing snakes she rears,
Tossing her torch, and thundering in their ears."

The Legislature of Maryland has, in company with other Legislatures, attempted to provide a remedy, and they have in common with others, only aggravated and inflamed the evil. Those debts which by an insolvent sponge they attempted to wipe away at one fell swoop, now appear in characters as radiant as ever. We find no fault with this decision, and we only cite it as evidence that where Congress are constitutionally empowered to grant relief, no subordinate power can furnish any. We are happy to find that the indispensable necessity of a general system of Bankruptcy is an idea that every day acquires more popularity amongst our brethren of the west. It was formerly hooted at, and it was thought that the state legislatures would take this business from the hands of the power to whom it was confided by the constitution. These bodies have resorted to various expedients to devise ways and means of relief; but they will be found after all, like the exertions of the Maryland Legislature, totally unavailing. We forbear to mention, although it is a strong fact in illustration of this hypothesis, the various bickerings excited between these local authorities and the general government. Indignant at beholding their pompous resolutions so unceremoniously set aside by a court of competent authority, they raise a hue and cry against Congress, and against a judicial tribunal—threaten to pass inflammatory resolutions, which if adopted, will be of as much importance as the sting of a musquito is to the hide of a rhinoceros.—*Baltimore Morning Chronicle.*

Havana.—An arrival at Charleston from Havana, furnishes a confirmation of the reports, mentioned sometime since, concerning the intended insurrection of the slaves in that place. It appears that they had proceeded so far in the organization of their scheme, as to appoint lords and ladies, in futuro! The number lodged in the Moro, is thirty—seven of them females.

London Papers.—There are advertised in the London Papers, coronation buckles, coronation cakes, coronation pills to cure melancholy and complaints of the bowels—and in one of the papers, coronation rat-trops!

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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Enigma.

Solution to QUIZ's Enigma of the 2d Instant.

From Lime, the two first letters if you part,
L. I. a falsehood is, from top to toe;
Rejoin M. E. and view a work of Art;
With proper heat, a calx as pure as snow.

VORTEX.

A Hint worthy adoption.

SIR,

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

The late Letters in your JOURNAL respecting the Operations in-Oude, whilst they recal to my mind my own unhappy employment against that oppressed people some years ago, also remind me of a manoeuvre that I practised with great success and satisfaction upon the Aumil to whom I had orders to render assistance, against a village which he was pleased to say was in a state of rebellion; and the hint perhaps may be of use to Officers sent upon this unpleasant service. I told the Aumil, who was very pressing, that I would certainly assist him, agreeably to the orders I had received; but as it could not be expected that I should be so well acquainted with the faces of the Ringleaders as himself, and as the cause was his own, that I must insist upon having the pleasure of his company in the assault, that I might reap the advantage of his local knowledge. He endeavoured to appear delighted with the arrangement, and was to attend me whenever he was ready; but I never saw his face again during my command.

Your's obediently

CELTUS.

In the Interior.

Deserved Reproof.

To the Reviewer of Sultry Hours, in the Asiatic Journal.

SIR,

Though half the globe intervenes betwixt us, I do not therefore feel the less grateful for the distinguished mark of your condescending attention in noticing my trifling production. From the banks of the Ganges, therefore, be pleased to accept of my heart-felt thanks for your kind, elegant, and impartial Review of my Sultry Hours; and in return, whenever you favor the world with any of your own Sublimer Flights, may some similar benevolent spirit be near, with the same elegance of expression, and the same just views of criticism, to shed the halo of glory round your more gifted muse.

You have performed in the most delicate and tender manner, one of the greatest though more painful tasks of friendship, and delivered me from an unhappy delusion—a task that all my other pretended friends and acquaintances had the false delicacy to decline; and whatever my mortification may be, I am not quite such a fool as to prefer a delusion, however pleasing, to the charms of truth. Your noble and manly specimen of criticism has completely proved to world, and, what is of more consequence, to myself, that I have completely mistaken my trade. I hope I am not yet too old to learn one more suited to my abilities; and under so able and amiable a teacher as yourself, I shall not utterly despair.

I would gladly avail myself of your kind advice, (which I doubt not but the fellow-feelings of a father dictated), and solace my Exile and Sultry Hours with the endearments of my child; but Heaven has been pleased to resume the valued gift it had bestowed—I have anticipated your other hint, which is no less happy than it is elegantly expressed, and enjoy all the consolation “a moderate cup of tea” can bestow. And now, my dear Sir, accept my parting wish—if Heaven has blessed you with a wife and child, may the unoffending objects be dragged by every Reviewer in the kingdom before the Public, in the same delicate and laudable spirit of criticism, in which you have done mine.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient and obliged Servant,

Benares, April 27, 1822.

GEORGE ANDERSON VETCH.

Confessional Seats.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

Observing in your JOURNAL some suggestions respecting the advantage of placing pews in the Roman Catholic Church, allow me to add, that if that plan is not adhered to, it would be advisable, and perfectly feasible, if Railings *only* were constructed, all over the Church, leaving a narrow space for Foot-paths, in all the three Altars; and a space sufficient only for the congregation to be accommodated in three rows, railed off, in equal divisions, with lock and key to the openings, which are to be only resorted to on festival days by a Roman Catholic Police Constable, to prevent all the irregularities complained of.

The “confessional seats” should also be railed off, with locks and keys to every door, to shut from the inside, to prevent an existing evil, which is too well known to need repetition,

Your most obedient Servant,

A WELL WISHER.

Soldier's Knapsacks.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

I lately met with some extracts from Colonel Blacker's Memoir; in one of them, an account of the battle of Mahid-pore, he speaks of the Light Infantry Corps, and makes the following remarks in a note:—

(f) “It is even assured by Officers who have seen both on service, that when Infantry of the Line have had their knapsacks carried for them like the Light Infantry, they have outmarched them. This affords an useful hint against relieving men habitually from that moderate encumbrance; for when called on for an exertion they no longer receive that additional stimulus and elasticity which a man or any other animal feels on being suddenly lightened.”

Now, with all due deference to the superior judgment of Colonel Blacker, I must say, and in this opinion I am not singular, that the term “moderate encumbrance” cannot with any propriety be applied to the knapsack at present in use with the Madras Native Infantry, whether viewed in regard to its weight and dimensions, or to the inconvenient manner in which it is fastened on. The weight of the knapsack when packed, with the carpet and watch coat tied on it, amounts to 18½ lbs. to which if we add that of the arms and accoutrements and turban, it will be found that each man carries a weight of nearly 40 lbs. It is fastened to two straps, one passing over each shoulder with loops at their ends; through these loops a strap passes round the body and is buckled across the breast. As might have been foreseen, the weight of the knapsack pulls this strap tight under the arms, which are galled by it, to the great discomfort of the wearer.

I am no advocate for carrying the knapsacks for the men, because I think they are more independent and comfortable when they carry them themselves; but I could wish to see their size reduced, and the number of their contents decreased, being of opinion, that the knapsack should contain nothing but what is absolutely necessary; if this were done, and a more convenient mode of fastening it were adopted, the efficiency of the Army would no doubt be much increased.

Whilst upon this subject, I would suggest, that, instead of the carpet the Sepoys now carry to sleep upon, a piece of painted cloth should be substituted; it would not absorb the moisture from damp ground as the carpet does, and in consequence prevent a great deal of sickness. I mentioned this latter suggestion to an Officer some time back, who, if I be not mistaken, said that these painted cloths had been adopted in some Corps in Ceylon, where they were found to answer.

Orissa,

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

March 1822.

A MADRAS REGIMENTAL OFFICER.

Astronomical Questions.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR;

Having noticed an Astronomical Report, inserted in your Paper of yesterday, from the GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, respecting the planet Venus's visibility in the presence of a meridian Sun, I am at a loss to know whether to take the reasoning of the Calcutta Astronomers as in jest, or in earnest.

If they mean it in earnest, they labour under a great mistake to think that orbit of any planet can be corrected from an observed distance of that planet from the Sun, even had they at the same instant observed the altitude of the object; which would have been preferable to a meridian altitude, taken either before or after the angular distance was taken.

But if that object could be attained, (viz. the correction of a planet's orbit) by the observed distance of that planet from the Sun or any celestial object, a Star lying in the path of the planet's orbit would be a better object than the Sun; the access to, and recess from, that Star being the quickest.

Now of all the planet's orbits, that of Venus wants the least correction, its orbit being the nearest to a circle; but if the angular distance of Venus at the time of this extraordinary sight and unusual phenomenon, as it is called, had been necessary to have settled the dimensions of the orbit of Venus, Astronomers have not been in want of opportunities; for it is a phenomenon that happens periodically in the course of a little less than eight years; the Earth making a fractional part less than eight revolutions, and Venus the same fractional part less than thirteen revolutions; Venus's elongation or distance from the Sun being then the same as at the period before.

I would have laid down the orbits of the Earth and of Venus, and from the data and diagram shown how to have found the elongation of Venus from the Sun, when the phenomenon is at its maxima of brightness; but as it would cause trouble and take up room in your JOURNAL, I choose rather to give a short verbal explanation; but at any other time, on a hint being given, that it will not too much encumber the pages of your Paper, since it is a very curious problem, I will give the rule to find the position of Venus, when her *maximum* brightness happens.

Now let it be premised, that the apparent light or heat coming from any luminous body, is directly as the quantity or intensity, and inversely as the square of the distance of the observer from that body; and let it be further premised, that the quantity of rays coming from Venus or the Moon, (for they are both similar bodies, and each has the like phases) is, as the versed sine of the cusps, or the enlightened part perpendicular to the horns. Put—

V. S.=the distance of Venus from the Sun.

E. S.=the distance of the Earth from the Sun.

E. V.=the distance of the Earth from Venus.

Now, these three distances being formed into a triangle, if the versed sine of the supplement of the angle S. V. E. be divided by the square of the distance E. V. the quotient will always be proportionable to the apparent brightness; and when that quotient comes out the greatest, the brightness is at its maximum.

A thing far more surprising than the visibility of the planet in the presence of the Sun, is, that, at that time you do not view half her face; and that when she appears full, you cannot see her in the day time.

The very best position of the Earth is in the node of Venus; and Venus being then in the proper situation with respect of the Sun, her brightness will be the greatest possible, which period however does not once happen for ages.

The Calcutta Astronomers believe, that since the invention of Reflecting Instruments, they have very rarely, if ever, been used to measure the distance of the Sun from any planet or Star. Why this remark? Can there be any possibility of seeing any object by reflex vision, that cannot be seen by direct? allowing Venus to be the only one of the planets and Stars that is ever

visible in the presence of the Sun; I, for one, must believe that during eleven recurrences of this phenomenon, since the invention of the Reflecting Instruments for the purpose of the taking angular distances, others have been alike curious in taking the distance.

Your insertion, Sir, of the above or any part, will oblige,

April 27, 1822.

Another Astronomical Report.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

I am the person who, a few days ago, gave you an account of the miraculous rapidity with which the science of Astronomy has been diffused among the Natives of Calcutta, and especially in Emambaug Lane; and I have now the inexpressible pleasure to inform you of the wonderful success with which it is cultivated in that quarter of the city.

On Wednesday, the day after the King's Birth Day, of happy memory, a number of the most celebrated Astronomers Assembled, "immediately perceiving, (as they themselves said,) the vast importance of determining *correctly* the distance of the planet (Venus) from the Sun in so direct a manner, and affording unexceptionable data for the correction of the tables." They used different instruments according to their respective tastes; all of the newest construction; and such as they verily believe had never been used for the same purpose before. The apparatus used by RAMRONOO, the chief Astronomer, is both novel and ingenious; and at the same time economical, as being constructed entirely of the utensils of his useful profession, he being of the respectable rank of the *Durzee*, or what we aptly call a "Tailor." His "*kanche*" or scissors were first fixed perpendicularly upon a table, into which the points of them were made to penetrate, and were then placed nearly in a line with the planet Venus and the roof of Buxoo's house. This arrangement being completed, while RAMRONOO looked through the thumb-hole of the scissors, his son and assistant in Tailoring and Astronomy, a very promising youth, looked through the other, and then his *Joroo* or wife stuck two needles into the thatch of Buxoo's house; so that a ray from the Sun through the eye of one, fell upon the father's pupil, and a glance from Venus, at the same moment, fell upon the son's; the space between the needles giving the sine of the angular distance. This observation gave Venus receding towards the Sun about 16 needle breadths in a *ghurree*: an admirable result.

Buxoo's observation was made with even more elegance and precision, by means of a plain mirror which he received as a present from an English Gentleman on whom he had been exercising his honourable calling. When the image of Venus was brought upon it, the reflection seemed beautifully bright, as if the Goddess had been flattered at her own appearance, which had thus attracted the ogling of the honest barber; a *Lootee* filled with water, being placed on the ground at the same time, and carefully adjusted so as to bring its surface to a dead level, received the image of the Sun into its cold bosom; and the distance between them was accurately measured, as the Versed Sine of the angular distance. The result of his calculations was, that Venus is *advancing* from the Sun, and that she will shave his disc some morning soon before Gun-fire.

TANTEYROY the weaver also made observations at the same time by means of a hole in the roof under which threads were suspended in a peculiar manner; but I do not mean to entangle myself among them at present; only I know that his results agreed admirably with the two former, and thus satisfactorily confirmed the accuracy of both.

Convinced by these successful experiments of the infinite advantage that may thus accrue to science, the Philosophers of Emambaug Lane have resolved on erecting an Observatory, to which they are strongly exhorted by RAMRONOO Durzee, who expects to be appointed Astronomer General, in consideration of his great skill in calculating 'Clipses; and it is confidently expected that Buxoo will be appointed Secretary and Reporter, for

Saturday, May 4. 1822.

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which he is well qualified by his dexterity in soaping or dry shaving, with or without a plain mirror. TANTREEBOY will no doubt be made Superintendent in the erection of the Observatory.

It is the misfortune of this climate: Mr. Editor, that all subjects, even questions of "pure Mathematics" (which Astronomical observations no doubt are, especially when so correct) are discussed with too much heat, especially when the Sun and Venus are shining at mid-day; But I hope the above Astronomical Report will be received with candor; and that "the herd of cavillers" who write "not for the sake of truth but to detract from merit" (such as that of the above RAMTONOO and his wife and son) I hope, I say, that they will consider the great difficulty of making such an accurate observation.

I am, Sir, Your obedient Servant.

A SPECTATOR.

Letter of a Hindoo.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

In consequence of a Note, on Churuck Pooja, stating the opinion of Mr. Ward, that "In some places a kind of Worship is paid at the foot of the Tree to Sheeva, when two Pigeons are let loose or slain," and expressing a wish that this point should be replied to by some intelligent Hindoo,—I, with the aid of some Pundits, with whom I have consulted, take this mode of communicating to the world their sentiments on the subject, which, it is hoped, will throw some light on the Shastras of a Religion, which is, indeed, highly venerable and remarkable for its antiquity.

As the English seem to doubt whether the Hindoos in general entertain a correct or erroneous Worship, with regard to celebrating the Festival of Sheeva, during the month of Choitra, I beg to subjoin here, a translation from one of the most Sacred Shastras, for the information of such as are ignorant of the subject; and as, in some measure, a reply to their call.

"VRIHDDHURMO POORANA Oottura Khunda, or last part of IX Chapter. That during the month of Choitra it is therein ordained, that Sheeva Pooja or the worship of Sheeva is to be celebrated by dancing and chanting; and moreover the worshippers should submit to every kind of austerity and to fastings; the worshippers will also keep awake all night. By the observance of such devotion, they there become the favorite votaries to Sheeva; and it is further ordained that the various mutilations which it is necessary for the votaries to suffer in their bodies, are entirely confined to Cshatriya and other castes, the Brahmins being expressly prohibited." The preceding quotation is a small part of the Shastras defining the mode in which Sheeva is to be worshipped by all castes of Hindoos. I will not encumber your valuable Paper with further remarks on the subject, tho' many others might be cited.

The Pundits who have kindly supplied me with the above Intelligence, labor under considerable apprehension, that their Colleges are likely to suffer, by the cutting of the New Road from Bow-bazar. We, in consequence indulge a sincere and sanguine hope, that the Committee will take this into their liberal consideration; and avert the consequences to men who are deserving the support of the community in this city.

I remain, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Calcutta, April 23, 1822.

PRICE OF BULLION.

A HINDOO.

Spanish Dollars,.....	Sicca Rupees	0	a	206	8	per 100
Doubloons,.....		31	0	a	31	8 each
Joes, or Pezas,.....		17	4	a	17	5 each
Dutch Ducats,.....		4	4	a	4	12 each
Louis D'Ors,.....		8	4	a	8	8 each
Silver 5 Franc pieces,.....		191	4	a	191	8 per 100
Star Pagodas,.....		3	6	a	3	7 6 each
Sovereigns,.....		10	8	a	10	12
Bank of England Notes,.....		10	8	a	11	0

Cape of Good Hope.

Cape Town, February 23, 1822.—The Public will read, with great interest and satisfaction, the accompanying Letter from Colonel CUYLER, to the Colonial Secretary, in which he details the result of an experiment, made by sowing Bengal Wheat, which seems to corroborate the opinion, generally prevalent, that this seed resists the fatal influence of the blight, which has ruined so many crops during the last two seasons.

SIR,

To Colonel Bird, &c. &c.

By this Post, I have forwarded my Diary. You will observe what I have stated in my Agricultural Report; to which I beg to add, I made the experiment on my farm. A piece of land, for two muids of seed, was in every respect worked the same. I selected one muid of Cape Wheat, which I had got from the Cape, and one muid of Bengal Wheat, I got in this neighbourhood, and the produce of the last season: both muids were washed in lime and salt water,—the Bengal had been first washed, after which the Cape seed: some few grains of the Bengal Wheat must have been left on the floor of the kitchen, and swept in amongst the Cape Wheat, with which it was sown. The two muids were sown the same day, and only a furrow separating them. The Cape Wheat grew to about 18 inches high, when it fell, totally destroyed by the blight, leaving the scattered seeds of the Bengal Wheat, standing in various parts of the land, and which ripened amidst the blighted Cape Wheat. From the muid of Bengal Wheat, I got a return of 20 muids. From this trial, I have no doubt but that the Bengal Wheat will resist the blight that has spread over this country the last two seasons.

Uitenhage, 13th February 1822. (Signed,) J. G. CUYLER."

Arrival in Table Bay, Feb. 18, 1822.—The *LOWACH*, English Ship, J. Pearson, Master, from Calcutta the 26th of December, bound to London, cargo Sundries. Passengers.—R. Brooke, Esq. H. C. Civil Service, Captain Heard, Native Infantry, Lieutenants York and Nagel, H. M. 17th Regiment, C. A. Hodges, late H. C. S., the Nabob Shah Meer Khan, and five Native Attendants, 7 Children, and one Female Servant.

Geographical situation of the following Head-Lands, as determined in the DISPATCH Transport, William Walker, Master.

	S. Lat.	E. Long.
Cape of Good Hope,	34° 27'	18° 31'
Hanglip,	34 28	18 44
Point Danger,	34 33	19 16
Quoin Point,	34 46	19 49
Cape Lagullas,	34 48	20 11
Cape Infanta,	34 35	20 52
Cape St. Blaise,	34 10	22 7
Mouth of Nysna,	34 4	23 0
Cape Delgoa—Seal Cape,	34 6	23 22
Cape Recliff,	34 1	25 41

The above is allowing Simon's Town to be in Longitude 18° 27' East of Greenwich.

Bombay.

Bombay, April 13, 1822.—We are sorry to state that an alarming fire broke out at Surat on the morning of Tuesday the 2d instant, in the Rustompoora suburb near the Nowsaree Gate. It commenced in a tin maker's shop and raged with great fury till the following morning. We are informed that nearly 2000 houses of various descriptions were destroyed, property consumed to the extent of about five lakhs of rupees, and 2 men burned: a pot maker and a rice beater.

We have been favoured with the following extract of a communication on this unfortunate subject: we are confident the appeal to the charitable feelings of this community will not be made in vain.

Dreadful Fire in Surat.—On the 2d instant at about 11 o'clock in the forenoon the calamitous conflagration commenced near the Nowsaree Gate, and the wind being rather strong, it carried the most rapid and irreparable destruction in its direction through the village of Rustompoora, till it consumed upwards of 1500 houses, with all their contents, the property of not less than 7000 of that class of native community called weavers.

It is truly wretched to see such a multitude of the lower, but perhaps the most useful classes of the population, without shelter and depending upon the charitable donations of many that are nearly as wretched as themselves for food.

Meetings have been held here among the various castes, for the purpose of raising funds to relieve the wants of the sufferers; but the sums received are too small to answer any other purpose than that of preventing immediate starvation, and as the monsoon is approaching fast, many must perish from want and the inclemency of the season, unless assisted by the different castes of natives and the European population of the presidency.—*Bombay Courier*.

Notice of the Boyne.

The Balcarras has brought a few Letters from the Boyne, which sailed from Saugor on the 1st of December last. The Letters are dated 6th January, at which time the Boyne was in S. Latitude 25° 55' and E. Longitude 55° 15'. She had made therefore a very extraordinarily quick passage so far—all well on board.

Shipping Arrivals.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
May 3	Diamond	Amrcn.	D. Beckford	Boston	Dec. 23
3	Susan	British	J. W. Phillips	China	Mar. 10

Shipping Departures.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
May 2	Titaghur	British	T. Taylor	Rangoon

Stations of Vessels in the River.

MAY 2, 1822.

At Diamond Harbour.—ST. THIAGO MAIOR (P.).—LORD HUNTERFORD.—VALLETTA.—JOHN BARRY, outward-bound, remains.

New Anchorage.—H. C. Ship EARL OF BALCARRAS.

Saugor.—MARCHIONESS OF HASTINGS, and HASHMY, below Saugor, outward-remain.

Passengers.

List of Passengers proceeding to Europe and to Sea on board the Private Ships SOPHIA, ALBION, PALMIRA, MADRAS and GANGES.

By the SOPHIA, Captain Reynolds, to Europe.—Mrs. Gowan, Captain Gowan, of the Bengal Native Infantry.

By the ALBION, Captain Swainson, to Europe.—Mrs. Sage, Mrs. Sumners, and Mr. T. W. Sumners. Children: Master James William Sumners, Misses Mary Elizabeth Sage, M. Daggers, Mary Dhoon, Isabella Anne Sumners, and Elizabeth Sumners.

By the PALMIRA, Captain Lamb, to Europe.—Miss Mary Constable.

By the MADRAS, Captain G. Wellden, to Europe.—Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Addison, Mrs. McPherson, H. Lushington, Esq. a Civil Servant on this Establishment, and Eneas Mackintosh, Esq. Children: Masters Francis Adam, Lewis Grant, Thomas Browne, and C. McPherson; Misses Caroline Maxwell, Julia Maxwell, Harriet Adam, Mary Ann Bacon, and C. McPherson.

By the GANGES, Captain Chivers, to Europe.—Mrs. Sissmore, Messrs. Henry Dowling Herbert, Alexander Davidson, Thomas Scott, John Duce, and John Ryan, Master Nicol Sissmore.

To Sea.—J. G. Deedes, Esq. a Civil Servant on this Establishment.

Vessels in the River.

Statement of Shipping in the River Hoogly, on the 1st of May, 1822.

	Vessels	Tons
Free Traders, for Great Britain,.....	3	1514
Ships and Vessels employed in the Country Trade,.....	27	11458
Laid up for Sale or Freight,.....	8	2984
American Vessel,.....	2	379
Spanish Vessels,.....	1	272
Portuguese Vessels,.....	3	2020
Arabian Vessel,.....	1	438
Total,.....	45	19055
Free Traders in the River, on the 1st of May, 1821,...	4	1968
Ditto ditto, on the 1st of May, 1822,.....	3	1514
Decrease,.....	1	454

Deaths.

At Sea, on board the PRINCESS CHARLOTTE, Captain M'KEAN, the Reverend JOHN CHAMBERLAIN, for many years a zealous and indefatigable Missionary in India, and late of Mongheer.

On board the SARAH, off Chawghut, on the 23d of March, Lieut. CHARLES MATHISON, of the 1st Battalion 3d Bombay Native Infantry.

Commercial Reports.

(From the Calcutta Exchange Price Current of Thursday last.)

	Rs. As.	Rs. As.
Cotton, Catchours,..... per maund	11 8 a	12 8
Grain, Rice, Patna,.....	2 0 a	2 2
Patchery, 1st,.....	2 4 a	2 8
Ditto, 2d,.....	1 12 a	1 14
Moongy, 1st,.....	1 5 a	1 9
Ballum, 1st,.....	1 6 a	1 7
Wheat, Dooda,.....	1 0 a	1 1
Gram, Patna,.....	0 12 a	14 0
Dhall, Urruhr, good,.....	1 6 a	1 7
Indigo, Fine purple and violet,.....	235 0 a	240 0
Ordinary ditto,.....	205 0 a	215 0
Dull blue,.....	185 0 a	195 0
Inferior purple and violet,.....	180 0 a	190 0
Strong copper,.....	200 0 a	210 0
Ordinary ditto,.....	160 0 a	170 0
Oude ordinary,.....	145 0 a	155 0
Saltpetre, Culme, 1st sort,.....	4 8 a	5 0
2d sort,.....	3 12 a	4 4
3d sort,.....	3 4 a	3 8

Indigo.—There is not much of this in the market, and very little more may now be expected to arrive—we heard of some small parcels of up-country Indigo during the week, that went off at 180 to 200, in Bond—the opinion we ventured to lay before the public in the Price Current of the 18th of October, stating the crop at 89,400, turns out to be pretty correct, it is not probable that the produce of the season will reach 90,000 maunds.

Cotton.—The demand for this in Calcutta since our last has been very limited—of Mirzapore an advance appears to have taken place—on the 23d of April new Cutchoura was quoted at 15-6 per local maund—at Bogwangolah on the 25th of April new Cutchoura was quoted at 14-8 to 14-10—sales during the week 8000 maunds, of which 3000 were for Calcutta, and the rest for country consumption—stock 31,000 maunds.

Opium.—Sales have been effected in this during the week at our quotations.

Saltpetre and Sugar.—Have not been much in request since our last, and prices have declined a little.

Piece Goods.—Are rather dull, but prices continue steady at our quotations—the Portuguese are the only purchasers to any extent in the market.

Grain.—Has been in fair request since our last—we have no alterations to state in prices.

Pepper.—We have heard of no transaction in this since our last, the prices may be stated at our quotations.

Europe Goods.—Especially perishable articles are looking up.

Freight to London.—May be stated at £5 to £7 per Ton—and likely to advance, unless we have arrivals from England soon—as all the Ships now loading, have their Tonnage almost wholly engaged.

Note.—It being difficult to quote with preciseness the prices of the following Articles, the mode of stating generally, whether they are at an advance or discount, has been adopted, as being sufficient to give a tolerably correct idea of the Market.—The Exchange being at Par.

References.—(P. C.) Prime Cost of the Article as Invoiced at the Manufacturer's prices, exclusive of Freight and Charges.—(A.) Advance on the same.—(D.) Discount.

Birmingham Hard-ware,.....	10 a	30 per cent. A.
Broad Cloth, fine,.....P. C.	5 a	10 per cent. A.
Broad Cloth, coarse,.....P. C.	0 a	5 per cent. A.
Flannels,.....P. C.	0 a	5 per cent. A.
Hats, Bicknell's,.....	40 a	45 per cent. A.
Chintz,.....	10 a	15 per cent. D.
Cutlery,.....	10 a	25 per cent. A.
Earthen-ware,.....	25 a	30 per cent. D.
Glass-ware,.....	30 a	35 per cent. A.
Window Glass,.....P. C.	0 a	10 per cent. A.
Hosiery,.....	10 a	20 per cent. A.
Muslins, assorted,.....	5 a	10 per cent. A.
Oilman's Stores,.....	35 a	40 per cent. A.
Stationery,.....	20 a	25 per cent. A.

CURRENT VALUE OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

BUY	CALCUTTA.	SELL
10 0	New Loans,.....	10 12
18 0	Ditto Remittable,.....	17 12